

The Literary Digest

A WEEKLY COMPENDIUM OF THE CONTEMPORANEOUS THOUGHT OF THE WORLD.

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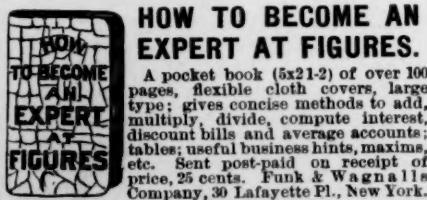
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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

FINANCIAL JOURNALS ON CARLISLE'S CURRENCY PLAN.

THE comments of the daily Press which we presented last week on the financial changes proposed by the Administration disclose wide differences of opinion, but many will attribute these differences to political bias and partisan feeling. We have deemed it profitable to present the views of organs devoted entirely to finance and business in a separate group. A perusal of the selections given below will show that while some of the elements of Secretary Carlisle's scheme commend themselves very generally to the representatives of banking circles, the scheme as a whole meets with much criticism. Some look upon it as a slight advance upon the present system, while others condemn it as a return to wild-cat banking and confusion.

Rapid Advance toward a Better System.—“The currency plan which he [Mr. Carlisle] favors differs in some respects from any which has been suggested, but follows closely the Canadian system of banking.

“The State-bank provision is liable to excite a great deal of discussion, and may fail of its purpose. With reference to it, it can only be said that no discrimination should be shown one bank as against another, and the same responsibility and restriction should be imposed on institutions which desire to issue circulating notes. The reluctance of a bank to comply with conditions which another bank cheerfully accepts can only be looked on with suspicion. For that reason the matter of circulation should apply to all alike, but the changes necessary to obtain note issues should be made as easy as possible. In that way the transition of an institution from State to National control would become a formality that would involve no sacrifice.

“Otherwise the plan has its advantages. It permits a circulation as large as that which the Baltimore plan contemplates, and secures it by a 30 per cent. deposit in cash. The Secretary seems firm in his belief that a deposit of 30 per cent. in legal tenders would call in a large amount of this currency. It would do so if the banks deposited it, of course, but while under the present system they draw a small interest on their deposits of bonds, they would receive nothing for their deposits of legal tenders. The only question, therefore, is one of profit. The issue of low in-

terest-bearing bonds to take the place of legal tenders, which are bound to be called in at no future time, would give the banks a better basis for circulation. The banks would no doubt gladly accept them in the place of legal tenders. It will not do to forget that bank circulation is now declining because there is no profit in it, and *The Financier* believes in common with all who have studied the question impartially that no plan can become successfully operative until it removes this objection to the issue of notes by banks. . . .

“On the whole, *The Financier* sees much to praise in the plan, and while several provisions might be improved, if not radically changed, it must be conceded that we are making rapid advancements toward a better currency system.”—*The Financier, New York.*

No Deposit with the Government Necessary.—“The chief feature of Secretary Carlisle's plan is that which has been urged so often in these columns—the issue of circulating notes against the general assets of a bank without the requirement of bond deposits in Washington. This is the essential requisite of an elastic currency, and we believe that Secretary Carlisle is more nearly right in putting the limit of circulation at 75 per cent. of the paid-up capital than Comptroller Eckels, who puts the un-taxed circulation at 50 per cent. These notes ought to be issued, however, without tying up any portion of the assets of the banks in the custody of the Treasury of the United States. It is not material whether the deposit required is in bonds or United States notes, or whether it bears interest for the benefit of the banks, or is simply a dead load, on which they lose the profit—it is bad in either case. The assets of a bank ought to be within its own custody for use in emergency, and the United States should arrogate to themselves no other function than that of the police power to protect the public from absolutely fraudulent banking methods. This can be done by proper supervision and without the physical custody of the property of the banks.”—*United States Investor, Boston.*

Inadequate Provisions for Government Supervision.—“The Secretary's proposals, which are in the main framed upon lines similar to those of the so-called Baltimore plan and that proposed by Comptroller Eckels, are far-reaching, and call for careful consideration before definite action is taken upon them. With one feature of the plan—the proposal to do away with the reissue of legal tenders—all sound financiers will agree. Mr. Carlisle does not, however, explain why he would limit the new National bank-notes to denominations of \$10 or more, nor why all banks issuing notes should not become members of the National system, and subject to the same supervision. Furthermore, there would seem to be room for a statement from the Secretary such as would convince noteholders and the public generally that the supervision of the banks under the new system would be complete and searching enough to avoid the danger of loss from sudden impairments of capital, a matter of high importance when the old basis of security for noteholders is withdrawn.”—*Bradstreet's, New York.*

The Truest and Safest Plan Ever Proposed.—“It is not easy to see what considerations should have suggested the clause requiring a continuous deposit of legal tenders with the Treasury equal to 30 per cent. of the amount of notes outstanding. The President calls this a 'guarantee fund,' but what further guarantee can be needed when all the assets of the banks are pledged to the noteholders, and when, beyond that, the stockholders are bound virtually to the extent of 33 per cent. in excess of the legal maximum of note liabilities? If the present bond guarantee is oppressively excessive, this suggested superfluity of protection would be still more so. The deposit would withdraw from the banks a large amount of their loanable cash resources, and would so far diminish the advantages conferred by the new power of issue. . . . This 30 per cent. deposit looks very much like a sly

contrivance for getting a round sum of the pestiferous demand notes safely out of the way. Embarrassed as the Treasury has been by these same notes, for the last eighteen months, we can well understand how a Secretary should wish them stowed into any inaccessible corner. But the more open, courageous, and conclusive way of getting rid of them by absolute extinction is far wiser than consigning them to the Treasury dungeons; even though, as Mr. Carlisle proposes, they should never be permitted to return to circulation again.

"The Secretary suggests that, under his plan, no bank-notes of a lower denomination than \$10 shall be issued. Probably the underlying motive of this recommendation is to make room for a large retail circulation of the mass of silver paper and silver dollars, reserving the bank-notes for the larger operations of business. Such a motive can be easily appreciated and there may seem to be some practical wisdom in it. Nevertheless, it is open to serious objections. It puts a large embargo on bank issues, in the interest of a much inferior form of money; and the subordination of a superior currency to an inferior one is certainly not justifiable on sound monetary principles, whatever may be thought of it on grounds of temporary expediency. The truer course would have been to leave the denomination of the notes to be regulated according to public convenience as expressed through the current demands of the banks.

"Barring the above exceptions, Mr. Carlisle's proposals present the truest and safest basis of bank circulation that has ever been submitted for the adoption of this country. It is a very broad measure and touches many interests, some of which, especially those of the silver miners, may be expected to oppose it. But, for the country at large, it would be an immense step in advance in our monetary arrangements. Provided measures were contemporaneously undertaken for the retirement of the legal-tender paper, we should then have a currency system capable of fully satisfying all our internal requirements, automatically responsive to the fluctuating wants of business, and needing none of the arbitrary doctored and innovations that in the past have produced so much monetary confusion."—*The Journal of Commerce, New York.*

Superfluous Limitations on Note-Issuing.—"The aim of this plan is to provide banks with efficient means to supply their customers with currency when it is needed. The security of the bills is established by a requirement which makes the banks collectively responsible for the redemption of the notes of a failed bank. The soundness of paper so insured is beyond question, though the principle of enforced cooperation which it involves may not be wholly acceptable to the banking fraternity. Considering, however, the absolute character of this guarantee, the limitations which the Secretary imposes upon the right to issue notes seem to be rather superfluous. If the issue of circulating notes is governed by correct banking principles, no greater amount will be released than the sum required for the promotion of trade. For the notes so issued, no guarantee is necessary. They flow back to the bank for cancelation or redemption, and if financial sagacity has controlled the operations of the bank there will be specie on hand to meet such of the notes as are presented for redemption. Here there is an unlimited privilege of issue restrained in practice by the natural causes which expand and contract circulation. Under such a system theoretically in perfect operation, there would be no need of adventitious safeguards. But even if freer issue were now allowed, and here and there a bank were ruined for failing to adhere to right principles, the institution of a guarantee such as the Secretary suggests would still be fully sufficient. The restriction of the issues, therefore, seems unimportant, although it denotes a radical departure from existing methods."—*The American Banker, New York.*

No Improvement on Present Conditions.—"This is a compromise measure, partially meeting the requirements of a sound currency, but also making concessions to those who are unfriendly to National banks and those who think they see the need of a local currency such as would be supplied by State banks, the latter class being mainly in the South. One of the most common complaints against our currency is that there are so many varieties of it, and that it is based on no scientific conception. This plan introduces still another element, the State bank currency, which, though subject to the same rules as the National bank-notes, would not be so completely in the control of the Government as they, because the issuing banks do not have Federal

charters. But, so far as the circulation is concerned, the most serious objection to this plan is the provision relating to the deposit of greenbacks and Sherman notes. These issues have always been the danger-point in our financial system, and the one thing most to be desired is to get the greenbacks out of the way because they are such a menace to the gold reserve of the country. . . .

"Secretary Carlisle's proposition to repeal all provisions of the law requiring banks to keep a reserve on account of deposits indicates that he has more courage than good judgment. His argument that a large reserve is not needed in quiet times and that the banks are stopped from using it in emergencies has some force, so much force that the Treasury Department deals very leniently with a bank that allows its reserve to run below the limit during a panic, but the people have not enough confidence in the two or three thousand National banks scattered through the country to allow them to keep as much or as little reserve as they please. The knowledge that any National bank could allow its quick assets to dwindle down to nothing at any time would be productive of widespread distrust. If the law in regard to bank reserves is to be repealed, then the Government may as well give up entirely any idea of a supervision of these institutions.

"The plan of the Administration embodies some good ideas, and it is the more regrettable that it is so complicated by objectionable features as to be no improvement on present conditions."—*The Economist, Chicago.*

BRIEF COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED CURRENCY CHANGES.

WE devoted considerable space last week to the comments of the daily Press on the Administration's currency plans, and, in view of the general interest in the question, stimulated by the prospects of practical legislation as a result of the work of the House Committee on Banking, which is now giving a "hearing" to bankers and others having definite financial views, we add this week a number of brief selections which will further aid the reader in forming an idea of the attitude of the Press of the country at large toward the proposed changes in our currency system.

"To be perfectly frank about it, we favor the plan because it is a shorter route to the eventual remonetization of silver than the road along which the country is now traveling. It will remove the strain that business is now suffering, and hasten the adoption of the only reasonable and permanent remedy for our present troubles."—*The Constitution (Dem.), Atlanta.*

"There are several serious objections to the proposition. The fundamental one is that, taken in all its parts, it will destroy the National character of our currency. We now have the best currency system the Republic ever had. When a change is made it ought to be an improvement rather than a retrogression."—*The Hawk-Eye (Rep.), Burlington.*

"The State-bank clause of Carlisle's plan is a very objectionable feature, and the elimination of the fixed reserve on deposits is a palpably weak feature."—*The Journal (Rep.), Minneapolis.*

"Not the least important argument for the plan proposed by Secretary Carlisle, or some other plan on the same general lines, is one not mentioned in the report to Congress; namely, that to get the note-issuing prerogative out of the hands of the overburdened Treasury and thereby relieve it from the difficult responsibility of maintaining the parity of the two metals by redeeming silver notes in gold coin, would enable the mints of the United States to coin very much more silver than could possibly be coined safely under the prevailing system. It would confine the duty of the Government regarding the supply of currency, in other words, to the coining of gold and silver."—*The Capital (Rep.), Topeka.*

"If the proposed bank scheme should be adopted, the circulation would be increased 50 per cent. at once, and everybody knows that a great inflation in prices would follow such a sudden and vast increase of the circulating medium as that. We have no doubt that if Congress were to pass a bill framed on the lines laid down by Secretary Carlisle and commended by the President, Mr. Cleveland would be certain to veto it, so that it is unneces-

sary to waste any further words in discussing it."—*The Republican (Rep.), Denver.*

"The truth is, the scheme is one not so cunningly devised after all, but which its authors hope will fool the people. It is another step to permanent gold monometalism. It looks upon its face as if it would tend toward giving the country a great volume of money, and they hope to satisfy the country's cravings for money by it, and thus gradually wean it from its desire for free bimetallic coinage and the issue of paper money by the Government. But when it is remembered that such money is made redeemable in greenbacks and Treasury notes, and, if they shall be retired, in gold, it will be seen that the supply of gold in the country must limit the volume of bank notes—for if it shall exceed the redeeming power of the gold, measured by the available amount, the notes would go to protest, and a crash such as the country has never had would be upon it."—*The News (Populist), Denver.*

"The people of this country have no desire for a return even partially to the old State-bank system. Probably the most satisfactory arrangement to the majority of people would be to keep the present National banking system as it is, except to allow banks to issue circulation to the full amount of the United States bonds deposited."—*The Call (Rep.), Lincoln.*

"Instead of depositing bonds, the bankers can issue 75 per cent. of their paid-up capital, provided they deposit with the Government 30 per cent. of the amount to be issued in United States legal-tender notes. Thus a bank with \$100,000 capital could, by adding \$30,000 to it, issue \$45,000 and lend it at whatever per cent. the law allows. With a few sheets of paper, a few strokes of the pen, the banker creates \$45,000. To every \$130,000 a National bank can raise the Government presents, by law, a gift of \$15,000. Fine game indeed! . . . Things are bad enough now. This law, if passed, will make them worse."—*The Progressive Farmer (Populist), Raleigh.*

"The National bankers are to get \$30 of the 'weakest point' currency our system affords, lock this \$30 of dishonest money in an iron safe, and issue, upon this security, notes to the extent of \$100; and the business world must take these notes as money—and be thankful for the chance. Why do we say thankful for the chance? Simply because a business man will have to take them, or go without anything in the shape of money. This is a grand scheme,—thoroughly in line with the 'statesmanship' of the times. Its principal task is the turning of the sheep over to the shearers."—*The People's Party Paper, Atlanta.*

"Except for a very intelligent and admirable discussion of the currency question, which is of enough importance to be taken up for consideration apart from the rest of the document and in connection with the equally thoughtful report of Comptroller Eckels, the President's Message is of the usual perfunctory and uninteresting sort."—*The Journal (Ind.), Providence.*

"This new scheme of Mr. Carlisle's will find favor in the eyes of many persons. Indeed, the number of those persons who wish to see State bank-notes in circulation is large. The House of Representatives at its last session voted down a proposition to repeal the tax on State bank-notes. All who believe that the banking system to be useful must be a credit-system will enlist in the cause of exempting State bank-notes from taxation."—*The Dispatch (Dem.), Richmond.*

"The complete absence of politics from the Message, to use an Irish form of speech, is one of its distinctive elements. It is purely a business communication, from date-line to signature, and one of the best written, most comprehensive, satisfactory, and statesmanlike messages ever sent from the White House to Capitol Hill."—*The Times (Dem.), Chattanooga.*

"Heretofore no proposition has come from the executive department of the Government for any more radical change in the bank-note system than some slight modification of existing provisions. No other Administration, we may almost say, has dared to advise so great a change as the abolition of the bond security plan. A great question is thus opened up for discussion, little less notable than that brought forward by the Tariff-Reform Message of 1887."—*The Republican (Ind.), Springfield.*

"The plan embodies the principle of the Baltimore Plan. On its face it seems to be sound and afford ample security and to possess the necessary quality of elasticity. It will receive close attention, of course, and will obviously be obnoxious to the fadists of all shades."—*The News (Ind.), Indianapolis.*

RENEWING THE STRUGGLE FOR CLOSURE.

ON the reassembling of Congress the demand has been renewed for a change in the rules governing debate in the Senate. With but few exceptions, the Press of the country seems to be decidedly in favor of "closure"—that is, a rule providing for moving the previous question after reasonable debate. In the Senate, the proposition encounters considerable hostility, and there is little probability of the adoption of such a rule. The Democratic caucus failed to recommend it, and a motion to take a resolution for closure from the calendar and proceed with its discussion was defeated last week. But the Committee on Rules has the subject under consideration, and a few individual Democratic Senators, including Mr. Vest, who was a fierce opponent of closure at the last session, are determined to press the resolution. On the other hand, Republican Senators who favor closure theoretically oppose its adoption at this session for fear of its use by the Democrats in securing the enactment of further tariff legislation.

The Majority Does Not Govern under Present Rules.—"It is plain that there is a strong sentiment in the Senate in favor of a change of rules. As the rules of the Senate now stand, it is possible for a very small minority to prevent the passage of any bill, by 'talking it to death.' When the vacant seats in that body are filled next month there will be eighty-eight members of the Senate, and it is possible for less than eight of these members to block any legislation to which they object, although the other eighty-odd members may be heartily in favor of that legislation.

"This Government is supposed to be primarily founded on the principle that majorities must rule, but under the present parliamentary procedure of the 'upper house' one Senator is able to defeat the wishes of ten of his colleagues by filibustering. A few determined men, by spinning out their speeches to an almost interminable length, are able to kill any bill to which they object, and they thus possess as practical a veto power as that in the hands of the President. Their speeches may be the most absurd bosh or drivel, and may have no bearing whatever upon the subject under debate, but by the courtesy of the Senate they must be heard. . . .

"Those who defend the present rules of the Senate and resist the demand for the adoption of the 'previous question' in some practical form, defend their position by pointing out some instances where the country has profited by the inability of the majority to control debate. Such instances have possibly occurred at rare intervals, but the main issue of importance is whether, in a republican government, the majority or the minority shall rule, and it is by such an issue that the rules of Senate procedure must be tested. If the majority ought to govern, then the Senate rules ought to be changed.

"If the Senate had some rule for enforcing the 'previous question,' it does not follow that the right of the minority to be heard in debate would be abolished. On the contrary, nobody objects to the adoption of a rule providing for the full and fair discussion of any legislation of importance; but at the same time there should be some positive rule, which could be used to prevent filibustering that merely poses under a pretense of debate. Such a rule should be adopted by the Senate at the present session; but if it is not now adopted, it will be at some day in the not very distant future."—*The Advertiser (Rep.), Boston.*

No Foreign Gag-Law Wanted.—"It is proposed to change the rules of the Senate so as to cut off the freedom of debate which has obtained in that body from the beginning of the Government down to the present time. An effort was made at the last session to change the rules of the Senate, and it failed. It should and it will fail now.

"*The Recorder* does not look at the question from a narrow partisan point of view. Democracy is passing from power in every department of the Government. It will be in a short time, as it has been during so many years, in the gloom and shadow of opposition; and the prospects are that it will remain there a very long time. The 'gag law' it is this year attempting to impose on the Senate can be turned against it with terrific effect in 1895, when a new order of affairs will prevail at the Capitol. Political chickens, like the other birds, always come home to roost.

"Freedom of debate has never been abused in the Senate. The

party which at the last session of Congress demanded that free speech there should be strangled was itself strangled at the polls.

"The country does not want any foreign closure contrivances in its highest legislative body."—*The Recorder (Rep.), New York.*

Senatorial Dignity a Mere Fiction.—"The tradition of the Senate excusing the absence of anything like a closure rule was that in this small and alleged eminently respectable body it would be impossible to find a Senator so lost to public spirit and to self-respect as to assume needlessly to delay a debate for ulterior purposes. The falsehood of this tradition has been demonstrated a dozen times. Senatorial dignity and courtesy have been cast to the winds. Senators have been compelled to submit to contests of physical endurance differing in kind only from those to which football players are subjected.

"The Senate of the United States is an exception to the rule of legislative bodies the world over, which requires in some form the closing of debate and voting upon the main question. Through the absence of a closure rule in the Senate we had the long delay in the passage of the Tariff Law which resulted disastrously to the business of the country and to the fortunes of the Democratic Party. The Senate should be made amenable to the laws which govern in all other legislative bodies in this country. The public business does not permit of delay in the transaction of affairs in the Senate at the whim of some half-dozen persons bent upon prolonging debate for the purpose of preventing legislation."—*The Times (Dem.), Chicago.*

The Senate No Longer a Small Body.—"Nothing is settled which is not settled aright." This truism comes to mind at once when we see some United States Senators once more endeavoring to secure a rule under the operation of which a vote may be forced upon whatever question is before the Senate, and other United States Senators endeavoring to prevent the adoption of any such rule.

"We have from the first thought that if the Senate or House was intended to be a legislative body its rules ought to be such as would enable it to legislate. At the same time we do not lose sight of the fact that obstructive proceedings in both the Senate and House of Representatives have heretofore resulted greatly to the advantage of the Democratic Party, and consequently greatly to the advantage of the country. . . . The House of Representatives has found it necessary to resort to a closure rule. While it was a small body the United States Senate got along well enough without such a rule, but now that we are soon to have over ninety Senators, that body will find it necessary to follow the example of the House of Representatives. Whatever good there is in the present custom of the Senate will survive closure."—*The Dispatch (Dem.), Richmond.*

A Reform that is Due to the Nation.—"The time has come when the Senate should, in justice to itself and with equal justice to all parties, provide some wise and conservative measure to hinder systematic obstruction of the majority by the minority. There should be no such summary and arbitrary rules as are necessary in the House that now contains nearly four hundred members and thus requires even arbitrary rules to accomplish legislative results; but the Senate should adopt a rule providing for a full and fair discussion of every public question, and make it impossible for the minority to extend discussion simply for the sake of defeating the purposes of the body.

"And the time is propitious for such a reform in the Senate rules. There is no great party question that is likely to be benefited or injured by such a rule during the remainder of the present Congress, and considerate men of all parties must feel the absolute necessity of so changing the rules as to abolish forever all ideas of filibustering in the first legislative tribunal of the Nation. It is due to the dignity of the Senate; it is due to the 70,000,000 of people for whom the Senate legislates, and it is due to the Nation that important measures desired by the majority of the Senate should not be hindered by methods which are disgraceful to the body."—*The Times (Dem.), Philadelphia.*

Cloaks for Pretense and Humbug.—"What the American people have lost in hard cash by the inability of the Senate to close debate and come to a vote cannot even be guessed at, but certainly the delay in repealing the purchasing clause of the Sherman Law was very costly. And so was the unreasonable prolongation of the Tariff agitation. These two cases are only instances

of what has occurred many times, and may occur many more times in the future. But the financial losses suffered represent a very small part of the harm done. Vastly more distressing than these are the increasing distrust of and contempt for the Senate itself. This feature of the case cannot be ignored without great danger. The American people are patient and long-suffering, and they are, too, disposed to trust their public servants. But they are tired of Senatorial courtesy and Senatorial dignity, and all the pretense and humbug for which these things are cloaks. They know the stuff out of which Senators are too often made, and with this knowledge it is impossible for them to have any superstitious reverence for the finished product. There is no reason why the Senate should not do its work, and do it promptly and expeditiously. Sloth is not synonymous with dignity."—*The News (Ind.), Indianapolis.*

"The object is to limit irrelevant and unspeakably tedious debate and to prevent the total obstruction of business by filibuster practices. It is a business proposition, inspired by the demands of public duty and by common sense.

"The reform is opposed, of course, by the few chronic interminable speechmakers who have become an insufferable National nuisance. Other opponents, it is said guardedly, are some moss-back Democratic Senators who apprehend that they are subsidizing into a minority of the Senate and who wish to retain the power to embargo business and paralyze legislation for partisan, local or some other selfish purpose. Others are actuated by a superstitious reverence, real or affected, for the moldy and cobwebbed 'traditions of the Senate.' All the reasons for hostility to the proposed reform are equally groundless and futile.

"The American people have become intensely and justly impatient with systems of public administration founded on schemes of 'how not to do it.' A do-nothing Congress or legislature excites their contempt and anger."—*The Herald (Dem.), Chicago.*

TO PERMIT RAILROAD POOLS.

THE so-called Railroad Pool Bill, passed by the House of Representatives last week, repeals the provision of the Inter-State Commerce Law prohibiting pooling arrangements by the railroads, and permits them to make contracts with each other for the apportionment of competitive traffic or the earnings accruing from it. This repeal was favored by many of the Chambers of Commerce of the country, and was acquiesced in by the Inter-State Commerce Commission itself. The Commission is empowered by the Bill to pass upon all such pooling contracts and to disapprove them if they are likely to result in unreasonable rates or unjust discrimination. When a contract approved by the Commission proves mischievous in operation, it has the power to abrogate it.

There is considerable divergence of opinion as to the propriety of this concession to the railroads. The Inter-State Commerce Commission is by no means satisfied that the Bill, as passed, will prevent rate-cutting and discrimination. It virtually says that pooling would not be necessary if the other provisions of the Law were obeyed by the railroads. The Commission prefers a different measure, containing better safeguards against abuse, but does not oppose the present Bill.

Supervision of the Commission, a Piece of Bunco-Steering.—"If pooling was conducted under rigid Governmental supervision it would not be detrimental to the public, although it might bolster up the stock of the weak lines at the expense of the strong, popular lines. But Congress proposes to throw the door wide open to the jug-handled chicanery that prevailed before pooling was prohibited, without tangible guarantees that would protect commerce against the blackmailing practices of the evaders. Every shipper ought to have the privilege to have his goods transported over such roads as he designates, and no company or railroad regulator shall have the right to divert the shipment from these roads to others that are not favored by the shipper. Every shipper should have the benefit of the shortest and quickest route to destination, and any combination to deprive him of this privilege should be punished by severe penalties.

"The proposition to relegate all the patrons of the American

railways for redress of grievances to the tender mercies of the Inter-State Commission is worse than a delusion and a snare. It is a piece of bunco-steering that few gamblers would be guilty of. The Commission is notoriously the creature of the railroad magnates. Most if not all its members owe their appointments to the influence exerted by railway corporations. If the power to regulate and supervise pooling is conferred upon the Commission, the railroads will be interested more than ever in dictating who shall or who shall not serve on the Commission. If they cannot absolutely dictate each appointment, they will be in a position to exert influence enough to defeat confirmation of appointees who would not do their bidding."—*The Bee (Rep.), Omaha.*

Fair Play to the Railroads.—"For several years the railroad companies of this country have had a particularly hard time of it. Their expenses have been increased, their earnings have been reduced, the interest on their bonds has been defaulted, and their dividends have been cut down or omitted altogether. In these things they have suffered to some extent in common with all other industries. When times are hard and trade is dull there is less freight to carry and fewer passengers to transport, and if the adversities of the railroads had been confined to the past two fatal years there would be no special cause for comment. Such, however, is not the case. Even during periods of prosperity the railroads have not, at least within the last decade, had their due share in the general good fortune. With a few conspicuous exceptions they have been going steadily from bad to worse, and now, as regards the great mass of them, are in a deplorable condition of financial decrepitude.

"There is a reason for this unfortunate and extraordinary condition of affairs, several reasons, in fact, all of which it is not necessary at this time to pass under review. But one very important reason, and probably the most influential of all, is to be found in the hostile treatment of the railroad companies by State and National legislatures. For years the railroads have been considered fair prey for every demagogue, popularity-seeker, and blackmailer who managed to get himself elected a member of a law-making body. They have been embarrassed and hampered and interfered with and imposed upon in every imaginable manner. . . .

"Under these circumstances, is it any wonder that so many of them are in the hands of receivers, and that so few yield any return to the people who own them? It is high time to change all that. Indeed, there must be a change if National prosperity is to be regained, for the ruin of so vast an interest as the railroads must injuriously affect the business of the whole country. The railroad companies do not ask, and certainly do not expect, any special favors. All they want is fair play and an opportunity to do business at a reasonable profit. The passage of the pending bill to authorize pooling will be a step in that direction."—*The North American (Rep.), Philadelphia.*

Monopoly the Result of Prohibition of Pooling.—"The jealous conservation of unrestricted competition for the benefit of the public is a principle as old as English law, and finds expression in American legislation, albeit trusts and 'combines' have done much to render it nugatory. It was stubbornly held by all anti-monopolists up to a date comparatively recent that this principle was as applicable to railroads as to other forms of business enterprise. But it has been found in practice that free competition among railroads means discrimination in favor of the large shipper to the detriment of the small one; in favor of a center of distribution and against intermediate points less favored by nature or circumstances. . . .

"The Inter-State Commerce Commission has long recognized and frequently pointed out the gross abuses which the prohibition of pooling has entailed. Public opinion has very largely come round to the Commission's view of the case, even in quarters where the jealousy of railroad monopoly is most intense. All reasonable men admit the absurdity of allowing the letter of the law to run counter to its spirit, and thus the Bill, of which Mr. Patterson of Tennessee has been made the champion, has behind it a considerable force of public sentiment."—*The Herald (Ind.), Boston.*

Authorizing a Gigantic and Oppressive Trust.—"It is a Bill authorizing the formation of a gigantic trust to control the carrying trade of the country and, by excluding competition, to make freight charges as heavy as can be extracted.

"A brief statement of facts, together with the recitation of a lit-

tle history, will make the matter clear to the least expert intelligence.

"Most of our railroads were built upon a fraudulent basis. Theoretically, their original stockholders paid for building them, and the stock which gave them ownership represented the outlay. This was a fiction. The stockholders in many if not in most cases since the end of the Civil War did not pay the whole or the half of their stock subscriptions. In some cases they paid only 2 or 3 per cent.—just enough to cover the preliminary expenses of corporate organization. Then to get money for construction they issued and sold bonds, often at a heavy discount, to themselves or others.

"Thus the roads were saddled first with a heavy stock liability representing no asset, and a bonded indebtedness as great as the cost of the roads and their equipment. They were expected to earn interest on the bonds, and dividends on the unpaid-for capital stock.

"Most of them were unable to do it. In their efforts to accomplish it they engaged in a merciless competition with each other for business. To stop this they organized 'pools.' That is to say, all the competing lines agreed to divide the business and its profits pro rata among them.

"This stopped competition, and rates became so extortionate that Congress enacted, as a part of the Inter-State Commerce Law, a prohibition of such pooling.

"The Bill just passed by the House repeals that prohibition and authorizes the railroads to organize themselves into what can hardly fail to be the most oppressive, as it will be the largest, of the trusts that absorb to themselves the greater part of the wealth produced by the country. It is a bill to put an end to competition in the carrying trade and to give to the railroad companies license to take for themselves pretty nearly all the margin of profit there is in the distribution of commodities."—*The World (Dem.), New York.*

A SCATHING REVIEW OF AMERICAN MONOPOLIES.

IS there such a thing as a monopoly? This is one of the first questions which greets the readers of Mr. Henry Demarest Lloyd's new book on "Wealth Against Commonwealth" (Harpers'), but it is not a question that is allowed to remain long unanswered. The "Wealth" of the title is designed to indicate the great aggregations of capital known as trusts and monopolies; "Commonwealth" indicates the rest of society; and what Mr. Lloyd views as a death-struggle between the two forms the theme of his book. It consists for the most part of an investigation into the methods pursued by the Standard Oil Company, and a statement of the results. Through five hundred full octavo pages he pursues this "monopoly" and its career for a generation, taking it as the most representative institution of the kind. As to the sources of his information the author says:

"It [the book] has been quarried out of official records, and it is a venture in realism in the world of realities. Decisions of courts and of special tribunals like the Inter-State Commerce Commission, verdicts of juries in civil and criminal cases, reports of committees of the State legislatures and of Congress, oath-sworn testimony given in legal proceedings, and in official inquiries, corrected by rebutting testimony and by cross-examination—such are the sources of information."

Mr. Lloyd's treatment of the twofold answer to the question whether there is any such thing as "monopoly" furnishes a good illustration of his trenchant style, while bringing out the fundamental differences of view:

"'There are none,' says one side. 'They are legion,' says the other. 'The idea that there can be such a thing is absurd,' says one, who with half a dozen associates controls the source, the price, the quality, the quantity of nine-tenths of a great necessary of life. But 'there will soon be a trust for every production, and a master to fix the price of every necessity of life,' said the Senator who framed the United States Anti-Trust Law. This difference as to facts is due to a difference in the definitions through which the facts are regarded. Those who say 'there are

none' hold with the Attorney-General of the United States and the decision he quotes from the highest Federal court which has yet passed on this question, that no one has a monopoly unless there is a 'disability' or 'restriction' imposed by law on all who would compete. A syndicate that had succeeded in bottling for sale all the air of the Earth would not have a monopoly in this view, unless there were on the statute-books a law forbidding every one else from selling air. No others could get air to sell; the people could not get air to breathe, but there would be no monopoly because there is no 'legal restriction' on breathing or selling the atmosphere.

"Excepting in the manufacture of postage-stamps, gold dollars, and a few other such cases of a 'legal restriction,' there are no monopolies according to this definition. It excludes the whole body of facts which the people include in their definition, and dismisses a great public question by a mere play on words. The other side of the shield was described by Judge Barrett, of the Supreme Court of New York. A monopoly he declared to be 'any combination the tendency of which is to prevent competition in its broad and general sense, and to control and thus at will enhance prices to the detriment of the public. . . . Nor need it be permanent or complete. It is enough that it may be even temporarily and partially successful. The question in the end is, Does it inevitably tend to public injury?'

"Those who insist that 'there are none' are the fortunate ones who come up to the shield on its golden side. But common usage agrees with the language of Judge Barrett, because it exactly fits a fact which presses on common people heavily, and will grow heavier before it grows lighter."

In the opening chapter the author enumerates some of the great monopolies. In the coal combination there is not less than \$500,000,000; in oil \$200,000,000, with hundreds of millions more in combinations in which its members are leaders; in the railroads and elevators of the Northwest combined against the wheat-growers many hundred millions more; in cattle and meat \$100,000,000; in whiskey \$35,000,000; in sugar \$75,000,000; in leather over \$100,000,000; in gas many hundred millions, etc., etc. He calls attention to the magnitude of the syndicates or syndicate engaged in going from city to city "consolidating all the gas-works, electric-lighting companies, street-railways in each into single properties, and consolidating these into vast estates for central corporations of capitalists, controlling from metropolitan offices" the light and transportation of the people of scores of cities. In an Appendix he gives a "partial list of trade combinations, or trusts, achieved or attempted, and of the commodities covered by them"—showing that they cover pretty much everything that people eat, drink, wear, or use, from bread and butter, candles and coal, calico and dress-goods, to spittoons and tobacco, tombstones and whiskey.

He sums up the condition of things to date, from the political and legal side, from the side of the "Commonwealth," when he writes:

"Laws against these combinations have been passed by Congress and by many of the States. There have been prosecutions under them by the State and Federal governments. The laws and the lawsuits have been alike futile.

"In a few cases names and forms of organization have been changed, in consequence of legal pursuit. The whiskey, sugar, and oil trusts had to hang out new signs. But the thing itself, the will and the power to control markets, livelihoods, and liberties, and the toleration of these by the public—this remains unimpaired; in truth, facilitated by the greater secrecy and compactness which have been the only results of the appeal to law."

His *exposé* of the Standard Oil Company begins with the sources of petroleum open to all, finds oil at ten cents a barrel in 1862, follows the development of an extensive and healthy business in producing, refining, and marketing the oil, until 1873, when the oil-combination, which had begun to make itself felt in business as early as 1865, took advantage of the panic to secure control of the sources of production, the means of transportation, the refineries, and facilities for marketing the oil. The story is told, in all its details, of the South Improvement Company; of

the "smokeless rebate" system; of the wrecking of all competing business enterprises; of the robbery of widows; of the subsidizing of courts, legislatures, Congresses, Churches, and the Press; of arbitrary reduction of the supply to increase the price; of the monopoly of the seaboard terminals; of the annexation of Canada and the Old World to the Oil Trust; of vast profits from small outlay or by extortion from outlay by others, etc.

In the following statement the writer suggests his solution of the problem, a solution toward which many seem now to be drifting:

"The true *laissez-faire* is, let the individual do what the individual can do best, and let the community do what the community can do best. The *laissez-faire* of social self-interest, if true, cannot conflict with the individual self-interest, if true, but it must outrank it always."

Mr. Lloyd has no doubt regarding the ultimate result of the conflict he has traced between monopoly and "the energies of reform." This only doubt is touching the method by which the end will be reached. He says on this point:

"The question is not whether monopoly is to continue. The Sun sets every night on a greater majority against it. We are face to face with the practical issue: Is it to go through ruin or reform? Can we forestall ruin by reform? . . . Unless we reform of our own free will, nature will reform us by force, as nature does. Our evil courses have already gone too far in producing misery, plagues, hatreds, national enervation. Already the leader is unable to lead, and has begun to drive with judges armed with bayonets and Gatling guns. History is the serial obituary of the men who thought they could drive men. . . . Industry and monopoly cannot live together. . . . Liberty and monopoly cannot live together. . . . There is to be a people in industry, as in government. The same rising genius of democracy which discovered that mankind did not cooperate in the State to provide a few with palaces and king's-evil, is disclosing that men do not cooperate in trade for any other purpose than to mobilize the labor of all for the benefit of all, and that the only true guidance comes from those who are led, and the only valid titles from those who create."

In conclusion the author restates his purpose in writing his book and affirms his faith in democracy and humanity. It is his closing appeal to the people for whom he has written:

"It is not a verbal accident that science is the substance of the word conscience. We must know the right before we can do the right. When it comes to know the facts the human heart can no more endure monopoly than American slavery, or Roman Empire. The first step to a remedy is that the people care. If they know, they will care. To help them to know and care; to stimulate new hatred to evil, new love of the good, new sympathy for the victims of power, and, by enlarging its science, to quicken the old into a new conscience, this compilation of facts has been made. Democracy is not a lie. There live in the body of the commonality the inexhausted virtue and the ever-refreshed strength which can rise equal to any problems of progress. In the hope of tapping some reserve of their powers of self-help this story is told to the people."

DEBS GUILTY OF CONTEMPT.—Judge Woods, of the Federal Circuit Court, sitting at Chicago, has rendered his long delayed decision in the contempt case of the officers of the American Railway Union. The charge against Debs and his associates was that they disregarded the injunction of the Court restraining interference with the movements of railway trains. Two points were raised by the defense: first, that the Federal courts had no jurisdiction in such cases, and, second, that the accused did not obstruct the movements of the trains by any unlawful conspiracy. Judge Woods decides that the Court had jurisdiction over the case because the conspiracy to interrupt inter-State commerce and the carriage of mails constituted a public nuisance which equity could restrain by injunction, and also because the property right of the Government in the mails gave the Court jurisdiction. On the question of conspiracy, Judge Woods said: "Pullman cars in use on the roads are instrumentalities of commerce, and it follows that from the time of the announcement of the boycott the American Railway Union was committed to a conspiracy, in restraint of inter-State commerce, in violation of the Act of July 2, 1890, and that the members of that association and all others who joined in the movement became criminally responsible each for the acts of others done in furtherance of the common purpose, whether intended by him or not. The officers became responsible for the men, and the men for the officers." The issue of the Court's injunction, continues Judge Woods, did not lead to any change in the method of Debs and his associates, and they are therefore liable for contempt. The punishment is fixed at six months' imprisonment for Mr. Debs and three months for each of the other defendants. An appeal will be taken to the United States Supreme Court.

ARCHBISHOP CORRIGAN AND NEW YORK POLITICS.

THE recent correspondence between Archbishop Corrigan and Father Ducey, of St. Leo's Rectory, this city, has awokened much public interest and no little newspaper comment. Whether or not Archbishop Corrigan has used his influence in behalf of Tammany Hall, has been a topic of more or less discussion for several years. Some events in the last campaign, growing out of the feeling aroused over the A. P. A. issues, incited more than the usual amount of discussion on this line. Rightly or wrongly, the correspondence between Father Ducey and his Archbishop is closely connected by the Press with the relations charged to exist between the Archbishop and Tammany Hall.

Briefly reviewed, the correspondence is as follows: Father Ducey, a friend of Dr. McGlynn, and one who has placed himself upon various occasions in antagonism to the Archbishop, has been a constant visitor at the sittings of the Lexow Committee, which has been investigating New York's Police Department. Shortly after the late election he received from the Archbishop canonical admonition to abstain in future from attendance upon the Committee's sessions. The letter said, among other things:

"I have noticed with pain your repeated attendance at the sessions of the Lexow Committee. Many an honest layman would blush to go to such an assemblage of his own free will, and much more is it discrediting that a priest should frequent such sessions day after day, and seem to glory in it. Certainly I would not allow any other priest of the diocese to exhibit such conduct without calling him to order."

In a long answer to this letter Father Ducey concluded as follows:

"I shall be greatly pleased if Your Excellency will inform me under what canonical rules you forbid my presence at any further sessions of the Lexow Committee."

Another letter from the Archbishop, which, being marked private, was not given to the Press, was received by Father Ducey, and answered in due course. The latest letter in this correspondence is from Father Ducey, in which he announces that, having received no reasons for ceasing to attend the Lexow sessions, he would continue to attend them—and as a matter of fact he has done so.

This controversy has excited considerable comment in the religious and secular Press. We have endeavored to secure representative utterances on both sides, but have failed by reason of the fact that the journals that are generally counted on to support Archbishop Corrigan's policies refrain from commenting upon the matter.

A Possible Reason.—"The Lexow Committee has been investigating the species of partnership heretofore existing between the vicious and immoral dens of New York and the political organization known as Tammany Hall. Very many of Archbishop Corrigan's coreligionists are members of the political organization known as Tammany Hall. Several of the 'big Injuns' of Tammany are pillars of St. Patrick's Cathedral, where the Archbishop officiates."—*The Catholic Citizen, Milwaukee*.

The Wrong Word to the Wrong Man.—"In all this contest where religion and morality and good government had so much at stake, and where so many of the rascals were men who bore the name and ostensibly performed the public functions of Catholics, the one morsel of private content of which Catholics as such could boast was that there stood at Dr. Parkhurst's right hand a man who reflected honor on the Catholic name, and who fought this battle to its bitter end with absolute wholeheartedness and courage. Perhaps some of us have said under our breath at times: Would God he were a priest! Would God he were a bishop! Not Leo repelling the barbarian from the gates of Rome would have earned so fair a title to his city's gratitude and undying remembrance as the bishop who would have gone forth, crosier in hand, to face down and terrify the modern Vandals, more terrible than the old in that their weapons included not only force but uncleanness and fraud.

"It looks just now, however, as if we might congratulate ourselves that John W. Goff is not a priest; that he is not a professor

of canon law, but a civil jurist. The Archbishop of New York, having lost such an opportunity as Heaven does not give twice to any man, having kept silence when a word from him would have been of incalculable service to the cause of good morals in his own city, has tempted fate again by speaking the wrong word at an inopportune moment and to the wrong man."—*The North-western Chronicle (Catholic), St. Paul*.

Shocking Display of Moral Deficiency.—"It would seem that blindness must have fallen on the Archbishop before he could make such an exposure of his attitude toward the work of reform. His enemies could have asked for no better evidence of his unfitness to be a guide to the Catholic Church in America. It has been, next to its alliance with the saloon, the greatest shame of that Church that it has been in alliance with Tammany; and now, just when Tammany is disgraced and beaten, the Archbishop of this city of New York, having just permitted his priests to urge Catholics at public masses to vote for Tammany, comes out and tells the one Catholic priest who sits by the side of Dr. Parkhurst at the sessions of the Lexow Committee, that his attendance is discrediting and must be discontinued. The folly is amazing; the lack of moral sense displayed is shocking."—*The Independent (Unden.), New York*.

Political Duty is Religious Duty.—"It is a matter of high significance that Father Ducey has decided, in spite of the distinct prohibition of his Archbishop, to appear at the Lexow examinations and lend his aid and countenance to the effort to purify our city government. By this act he distinctly takes the ground that the obligation of citizenship takes rank before the obligation of churchmanship. Not, indeed, that political duty or any other duty comes before religious duty, but that political duty is religious duty, that for the performance of the duties of citizenship he is responsible, as for the acts of private morality, directly to God and not to any intermediary. The decision involves more than appears on the surface."—*The Evangelist (Presb.), New York*.

A Political Question that Must Be Settled Here.—"Events of recent occurrence impart to the conflict now going on in the Roman Catholic Church a significance which cannot be overlooked. It is not, as matters now stand, a merely personal quarrel between prelates for position or power. The action of Archbishop Corrigan in forbidding Father Ducey, or attempting to forbid him, from attending the sessions of a legislative committee engaged in the investigation of abuses of power by a party with which the Archbishop is believed to be in sympathy, and the remarkable utterance on the subject recently made by Bishop McQuaid, of Rochester, as the Archbishop's friend and supporter, have given a political and partisan coloring to the situation which cannot escape comment, however much it may be deplored. The crazy efforts of Democratic politicians in this and other States, notably in Connecticut, to drag the religious question into the late election by making it appear that the Republican Party was in antagonism to the Roman Catholic Church while the Democrats were sole champions of religious liberty, only emphasized the fact that the existing differences in the Church are, if not essentially political, dangerously near it. In this political divergence Archbishop Corrigan represents what may perhaps be called the conservative element in the Church, while Archbishop Ireland represents progress and enlightened liberalism. It is here that their ways separate, and just here that politics necessarily and unavoidably comes in."—*The Tribune (Rep.), New York*.

THE PORT ARTHUR MASSACRE.—The Eastern correspondent of *The New York World* cabled on December 11 from Yokohama that the Japanese troops, after entering Port Arthur on November 21, massacred most of the inhabitants of the city in cold blood. For three days the unrestrained reign of murder continued, the Japanese relapsing into barbarism. This report found little credit and was denied by the Japanese representatives in Washington. But *The World* of December 17 publishes an official statement from the Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Mutsa, in which the report of the massacre is substantially confirmed. He admits that "the Japanese troops, transported with rage at the mutilation of their comrades, broke through all restraints," that "further exasperated by the wholesale attempt at escape" of the Chinese soldiers in citizen disguise, the Japanese troops "inflicted vengeance without discrimination," and that "the detection on successive days of repeated Chinese atrocities rekindled the fury and provoked fresh acts of violence." It is insisted that there was no intention to molest non-combatants, but the Japanese Government offers "no palliation of what actually occurred." A searching investigation is promised. *The World* states that the new Treaty with Japan now pending in the Senate, which recognizes Japan as a civilized nation, has been laid aside until detailed information of the conduct of the Japanese at Port Arthur can be obtained.

CREED OF THE MONOMETALISTS.

THIS article is in response to a challenge. The challenge was for the believers in a single money standard to formulate their belief and present their reasons therefor. It was issued by J. P. Heseltine in an article in *The Nineteenth Century*, September, and in the November issue it is responded to by Henry Dunning MacLeod, in an article which *The Evening Post*, one of the most conspicuous monometalist papers on this side of the sea, accepts as an eminently satisfactory exposition of the views of the school. Mr. MacLeod states the subject of controversy as follows:

"Supposing that gold and silver are coined in unlimited quantities, and a Fixed Legal Ratio enacted between them.

"1. Is it the fixed legal ratio enacted between the coins which governs the relative value of the metals in bullion? 2. Or is it the relative value of the metals in bullion which governs the relative value of the coins? 3. And if no single and separate States can maintain a fixed legal ratio between the metals when coined in unlimited quantities, can an international agreement among the principal mercantile countries in the world do so?"

He then briefly recites certain pertinent historical events in three countries, France, Poland, and England. In France, the debasement of the coins by the King was followed by industrial troubles, and Charles V., perceiving the necessity for a reform of the coinage, submitted the subject to Nicolas Oresme, who, in answer, drew up his "*Traité de la première Invention des Monnaies*," which has but recently been brought to the notice of economists, but which, Mr. MacLeod thinks, stands "at the head of modern economical literature," and contains "the fundamental principles of money which are now accepted by all sound economists." Those principles are given as follows:

"1. That the sovereign has no right to diminish the weight, debase the purity, or change the denomination of the coinage. To do so is robbery.

"2. That the sovereign can in no case fix the value or the purchasing power of the coins. If he could do so, he could fix the value of all other commodities; which was indeed the idea of medieval sovereigns.

"3. That the legal ratio of the coins must strictly conform to the relative market value of the metals.

"4. That if the fixed legal ratio of the coins differs from the natural or market value of the metals, the coin which is underrated entirely disappears from circulation, and the coin which is overrated alone remains current.

"5. That if degraded and debased coin is allowed to circulate along with good and full-weighted coin, all the good coin disappears from circulation, and the base coin alone remains current, to the ruin of commerce."

In Poland, we are further told, Sigismund I. sought the advice of Copernicus on the same subject of reforming the currency, and Copernicus in response drew up his "*Ratio Monetæ Cudendæ*," discovered within the present century, in which, independently of Oresme's treatise (of which, though written one hundred and sixty years before, Copernicus had no knowledge), he reached the same conclusions. In England, in the time of Queen Elizabeth, the same trouble led to consultation with Sir Thomas Gresham, who explained the cause of the trouble in the same way, his explanation being now known as Gresham's Law, and being stated by Mr. MacLeod as follows: "When two sorts of coin are not current in the same nation, of like value by denomination, but intrinsically [i.e., in market value], that which has the least value will be current, and the other as much as possible will be hoarded," or, Mr. MacLeod adds, "melted down, or exported."

This is the fundamental principle in the monometalist's creed, according to Mr. MacLeod, and it has been verified by experience in all ages and in all countries. He then goes on to amplify this principle as follows:

"It is exactly the same in all cases in which persons are allowed to pay their debts in things which have nominally the same value,

but in reality are of different values. When persons are allowed to pay their rents in kind, they naturally select the worse portions of the produce to pay their landlords, and keep the best portions for themselves.

"So, if the law allows debtors to pay their debts in coins of different metals which are rated equally in law, but whose value differs in the market of the world, they will naturally pay their debts in the coin which is overrated, and keep the coin which is underrated at home. Then inevitably the coin which is underrated disappears from circulation, and the coin which is rated above its natural or market value alone remains current; and this is true whether single and separate States do so, or whether the whole world does so. If, then, the whole world were to agree to rate a coin below its market value, it would inevitably disappear from circulation; for the whole world can no more by universal agreement make nine equal to twelve than any separate States can.

"For the very same reason it is impossible to maintain a fixed par of exchange between countries which use different metals, as their standard, because coins are only accepted in foreign countries according to the market value of the bullion they contain; and as the value of the metals is constantly changing in the market of the world, the value of the coins must equally do so too.

"The truth of these principles, which are gathered from the experience of ages, is incontrovertible.

"The bimetalists contend that if a fixed ratio between the metals were established by international agreement, the market value of the metals would conform to it; that by so doing the metals would circulate together in unlimited quantities at the fixed ratio and so augment the currency, or circulating medium, of the world; that every one would bring his gold and silver to be coined; that these might be used indifferently in the payment of debts, and that a stable ratio of exchange might be established between all nations.

"Most unfortunately, the experience of bimetallism in every country for five hundred years entirely negatives all these allegations."

Then follows a review of the attempts by France, in the period which "the bimetalists cite as the golden age of bimetallism," namely from 1113 A.D. to 1874 A.D., to maintain bimetallism. But during this time, Mr. MacLeod claims, the mint price of the gold mark was changed 146 times, and that of the silver mark 257 times. In 1874, France closed her mints to the coinage of silver, because, Mr. MacLeod asserts, it was compelled to do so by the fall in the value of silver, the necessity of doing so having been foreseen six years before, and the step being taken after the fullest discussion. Mr. MacLeod continues:

"Thus while the bimetalists of the present day allege that a fixed legal ratio between the coins can control and fix the relative value of the metals, the experience of five centuries and a chain of authorities comprising some of the most illustrious names the world ever produced, with the consequences of bimetallism before them, clearly and unanimously decided that such an idea is a delusion, and that it is the market value of the metals which regulates the relative value of the coins.

"Bimetallists now admit that no single country can maintain bimetallism by itself, but they allege that if all nations of the world, or at least the principal of them, were to agree to fix a common ratio, that would maintain a fixed value between them and bring about a stable exchange between all nations. But such ideas are a delusion. When great laws of nature are once proved, they operate throughout the whole world, and not on single countries only. An international agreement can no more make nine equal to twelve than any single country can. If an international agreement were made that the ratio between gold and silver should be 1 to 15½ when the market ratio was 1 to 35, the simple result would be that all debtors would discharge their debts at 10s. in the pound, gold would entirely disappear from circulation, and silver would be the sole metallic currency of the world. . . .

"If it were possible to establish a fixed ratio between gold and silver by international agreement, it would be equally possible to fix the value of all commodities. Innumerable mercantile catastrophes are caused by the unexpected change in the value of commodities; why not then fix the value of all commodities,

and so remove the cause of multitudes of mercantile calamities? Agriculturists are suffering the extremest depression from the fall in the value of their produce. Why not then fix the value of corn at a remunerative price by international agreement? If it were printed in all the statute-books of the world that the price of wheat should be 60s. a quarter, does any person of common-sense suppose that the price of wheat would rise one farthing?"

HOW THE CZAR RECEIVED HIS DEATH-STROKE.

THE story is told by Mr. William T. Stead, who had a personal acquaintance with the late Czar and his family. He tells it as follows in the December number of his magazine, *The Review of Reviews*:

"Of his [the late Czar's] beautiful domestic life, of his devotion to the Czaritsa, and his tender love for all his children, I need not speak. But it is not generally known that the fatal chill which carried him off was due to this paternal tenderness. When at Spala, the Czar and his son, the Grand Duke George, whose delicate constitution has always been a source of anxiety to his parents, went out shooting in the woods. The boy shot at and dropped a duck. The bird fell in what seemed, to the lad's inexperienced eye, a grassy glade, but on approaching the bird he found to his horror that he had walked into a treacherous marsh. He began to sink with great rapidity, and before his cries of alarm brought his father to the spot he had sunk up to his neck in the bog. The Czar rushed to his rescue, and succeeded in extricating his son from the bog by putting forth his immense strength, but not until he had been thoroughly saturated by the moisture. They hastened home. The young Grand Duke showed signs of fever, while his father was conscious of a chill. The palace of Spala is an extensive building, and it so happened the Grand Duke's rooms were at the end of one wing, while the Czar's bedchamber was in the center. At night the Czar wished to get up and visit his boy. The Czaritsa strongly opposed this desire, declaring that his health was of quite as much importance as that of his son's, and, considering the chill which he had received, it would be dangerous for him to get out of bed. The Czar, who always shrank from opposing the will of the Empress, pretended to go to sleep. His wife, satisfied that he was slumbering peacefully, went to her own room. No sooner was the coast clear than the Czar got up and traversed the long draughty corridors of the palace in dressing-gown and slippers until he reached his son's apartments. After remaining there for a short time he returned, with the result that the chill which he had received in extricating his boy from the bog settled upon his vital organs, and from that day is dated the acute stage of the malady which ultimately carried him off."

In speaking of the new Czar, Mr. Stead states guardedly that it was understood some time since that he had contracted habits which may result in mental and physical deterioration.

Dr. Crosby and Dr. Parkhurst.—Discussing the need of courage in men of conviction, *The Christian Inquirer*, New York, ascribes the great success of Dr. Parkhurst in his campaign against the police department to the fact that he had the courage of his convictions. When Dr. Parkhurst began his crusade, it says, a score of ministers knew as much about the situation as he did, but, while they were equally eager for reform, they lacked the courage to face opposition, ridicule, and misrepresentation. *The Christian Inquirer* then gives this interesting bit of history:

"Dr. Howard Crosby, the predecessor of Dr. Parkhurst in the presidency of the Society for the Suppression of Vice, was a bold man. Few men would question his bravery; he had some idea of the corrupt and blackmailing work of the police of the city his successor has brought to light. In a speech made before the Baptist Ministers' Conference he gave some such facts as Dr. Parkhurst gave in his daring sermon. He told of the blackmail, the corrupt practices, the crimes of the police. He stated one soul-shuddering fact that had been told to him in his own parlor. The speech was reported, and Dr. Crosby was brought under the same kind of semi-official fire that was turned on Dr. Parkhurst. He saw what was before him, and hesitated. His eagle eye quailed, his heart grew faint, and while he did not retract he was

unwilling to fight. He did all the police wanted him to do—retreated. He feared the storm which he saw was ready to burst upon him if he persisted in his charges and shrank back unwilling to meet what he knew would come. His fiber may have been finer than that of his successor, but his courage was not as great as that of the younger and sterner man whose name is now on every lip. Dr. Crosby saw where he would be obliged to go to procure evidence, he understood the forces that would be arrayed against him, the filth and mud that would be poured on his good name and life-long honor, and it is no wonder that he hesitated to press his charges against the police force and the courts of justice. But while he hesitated the cause was lost."

FIRST TRIAL OF A POLICE OFFICER ON LEXOW EVIDENCE.—The first member of the New York police force to be tried in court on charges of corruption brought out by the investigations of the Lexow Investigation Committee is ex-Captain Stephenson. He was indicted for bribery on the charge of entering into an agreement with a fruit-dealer, allowing him to obstruct the sidewalks, contrary to city ordinances, in consideration of gratuities of fruit. The delivery to the ex-Captain's house of four baskets of peaches was proved on trial, and the jury brought in a verdict of guilty. Trials of other police officers are to follow.

EX-GOVERNOR TILLMAN ELECTED SENATOR.—The Legislature of South Carolina has elected ex-Governor Tillman to be United States Senator by the extraordinary vote of 131 to 21. Charges of corruption have been made by his opponents to prevent his election, but little credence was given them even by the enemies of the ex-Governor.

TOPICS IN BRIEF.

"TOM REED in the present session resembles a small boy at his Christmas dinner, in nothing so much as in his intense desire to hurry through the previous courses and get right down to business on the pudding."—*The News, Baltimore*.

"A FEW more massacres of Armenians might lead to the death and dismemberment of a certain Turkey, about Christmas time."—*The Tribune, Chicago*.

"THE fools of the dying Congress will be made up for by the knaves of the next one."—*The Gazette, Swansea*.

"THE President might move that sentry-box over in front of the gold reserve."—*The Tribune, Detroit*.

"JUST suppose Senator-elect Ben Tillman should start in by introducing a Dispensary Law applying to the Senate restaurant."—*The Advertiser, New York*.

"HE:—'I see that China is suing for peace.' She:—'How ridiculous! Hasn't she lost enough by war without going into the law courts?'—*The Transcript, Boston*.

"THE living picture refuses to be turned toward the wall without very vigorous protest and certain remarks about society customs."—*The Press, New York*.

"ANDREW CARNEGIE says that a man who dies rich dies disgraced. This looks like an amiable effort to cheer up Uncle Sam."—*The Globe-Democrat, St. Louis*.

"HANNIBAL and Alexander will probably be served up by the magazines as soon as the Napoleonic revival is over, so their friends will do well to be prepared."—*The Press, New York*.

"PRESIDENT CLEVELAND'S new financial scheme doesn't appear to be gaining in currency."—*The Dispatch, Chicago*.

"GOVERNOR TILLMAN naturally feels that he will have no difficulty in living up to the United States Senate."—*The World, New York*.

"MR. KOLB has consented to retire for a brief period, as a number of other gentlemen desire to appear in the exhibition, and time is limited."—*The Star, Washington*.

"PRESIDENT CLEVELAND is justified in thinking that cold shoulders have become epidemic in Washington."—*Democrat and Chronicle, Rochester*.

"IT appears that all the railroads want is to have pooling legalized. There is a general suspicion that they have the pools already."—*The Times, Chicago*.



AN ELASTIC CURRENCY.
G. C. (on his new patent):—"Walk up, gentlemen; here's where you get your elastic currency, and learn how to make one dollar go as far as two."—*Minneapolis Journal*.

LETTERS AND ART.

IBSEN'S UNPUBLISHED PLAY STOLEN.

IBSEN has always preserved the greatest secrecy with regard to his new plays. "Little Eyolf," his latest, which was in the hands of the publisher, Gyldental, in Copenhagen, was carefully guarded, as all previous manuscripts had been, and yet it was purloined and has been made public. The *Politiken*, Copenhagen, has revealed a synopsis of the new drama. The New York Danish-Norwegian paper, *Nordlyset*, copies from the *Dannebrog*, Copenhagen, the story of the abstraction of the play from the office of its publisher, and the way in which the *Politiken* got it, as follows:

"Neither by stealing nor by betrayal in the printing-office did Mr. Cavling, of *Politiken*, get the contents of Ibsen's new play. The Norwegian author, Thomas P. Krag, who at present is in Copenhagen to read the proof of one of his own plays, happened to do this in the same printing-office in which Ibsen's new play is printed. One evening while the foreman absented himself from the office for a while to look after Krag's manuscript, this gentleman looked upon his desk and found parts of Ibsen's play. He put them in his pocket to read them at home, and returned them in the morning, having the additional luck to find some more proof-sheets, which he abstracted secretly. Krag told Cavling about the play, and this reporter made the most of his discovery. Thus the secret was revealed."

The *Dannebrog* rejoices that it is one of Ibsen's own countrymen who betrayed him, and not a Dane. And the *Dagblad*, Christiania, tells us that Ibsen is "mad with rage," and has said:

"This shall go before the courts. I have telegraphed to Gyldendalske Baghandel to engage a lawyer. This is outrageous. I am blamed for secrecy. But what can I do? My publishers, both Danish, German, and French, demand that I must not say a word about my plays until published. Just now I have a telegram from Berlin, in which my publisher says that French papers are publishing parts of my new play. I am not guilty of indiscretion. I have spoken to nobody."

The following is the article in the *Politiken* which made known the incidents of the play:

"Henrik Ibsen has exercised greater secrecy than ever in regard to his forthcoming play. Its title is not even known. Mrs. Ibsen does not know it, nor do any of Ibsen's friends. The publisher Gyldental, in Copenhagen, is going to the ridiculous in keeping Ibsen's secrets under hermetic locks. Upon inquiry we find that we cannot even learn how large the first issue is to be. We learn, however, that the play is in three acts, and its scene is laid in a small town, on a fjord. In the first act we see the couple, *Alfred Allmer* and his young wife, *Rita*. *Rita's* strange fate is revealed there. *Allmer's* sister *Asta* and the 'friend' *Borghejm* are the most weird and demoniac figures yet created by Ibsen. *Alfred Allmer* and *Rita* have but one child, a boy named *Eyolf*. They live happily and bestow their love for each other upon their child. But their happiness is disturbed by a fatal fall of the boy, largely due to the mother's carelessness, and after that the boy walks on crutches. The father comes to love the boy more heartily than ever, his sympathy largely stimulating his affections. But the mother is horror-struck at the idea that her boy, who in her eye was called to be a hero and savior of men, must limp through life on crutches. In short and terse language, in epigrammatic and incisive sentences, we hear how the mother's love and passion turns from the child to the father, who in his care for the boy has neglected and almost forgotten his wife. The mother comes to look upon the child with 'the evil eye.' The act winds up with the terrible scene of the boy's drowning. The mother's language is most extraordinary, and will no doubt create a tremendous excitement when heard upon the stage. In the second act we see the two in a small valley and hear their conversation, the burden of which is the father's question, 'Why did that boy drown?' He can see no reason—excepting in the mother's 'evil eye!' Here we leave the reader to guess the rest."

"Ibsen's forthcoming play has been looked for eagerly in France. One of the larger theaters has offered him a fabulous sum for the privilege of being the sole exhibitor in Europe."

THE DOOM OF REALISM.

THE subject of realism as a fictional style is one that, to use a current vulgarism, has paresis; still there are but few persons interested in romanticism, and believing in it, who would decline to read any intelligent article treating of their favorite's lately dangerous rival, especially an article aiming death-blows at that tenacious opponent. When to intelligent treatment of the subject of realism is added a spicy humor, the dish becomes savory enough to tempt even the surfeited, and these elements enrich the entertainment afforded by William R. Thayer in the pages of *The Forum*, December, where he discusses "The New Story-Tellers and the Doom of Realism."

About eight years ago, Mr. Thayer publicly directed attention, in a magazine article, to the then recently made observation of the critic Emile de Vogüé that realistic fiction was "fast nearing high-water mark," and that the turn of the tide would be followed by fiction of a purer and different sort. Referring to this incident, Mr. Thayer now says:

"Only eight years have elapsed, yet no one can doubt that, so far as Realism is concerned, M. de Vogüé was a far-seeing observer. M. Zola, the arch-priest of the obscene rites of French Realism, has ceased to have any formative influence on French novelists: he has ceased to be called 'maître,' or to be imitated by disciples; his own books are still widely read, for obvious reasons, among which his talent as an advertiser is not the least; but they beget no warfare among critics and their power as literary epoch-makers has vanished. Even the stories of Guy de Maupassant, the Realist who presented his delicately-wrought immoralities to you with silver tongs, instead of Zola's coal-shovel, we were told the other day by another watcher of French literature, have lost their vogue: and yet Maupassant is but two years dead."

"I refer first to France because France is still the initiator of novelties, whether in politics, literature, or millinery; and when she does not originate she is usually the first to give world-currency to what others have initiated. But the symptoms observed in France have been widespread, and the change they betoken is working most healthily in England and America. We violate no confidences in declaring that Realism in fiction is passing away. Eight years ago the 'Realists'—who ought rather to be called the 'Epidermists'—had the cry; to-day you have only to look at the publishers' announcements, or at the volumes in everybody's hand, to see what fiction is popular. Caine, Doyle, Zangwill, Weyman, Crockett, Du Maurier,—not Realists but Romanticists, not analysts but story-tellers,—are writing the novels which the multitude are sitting up late to read. And Stevenson and Crawford, whose reputation dates from the very heyday of Realism, have certainly not lost popularity during the past decade, while—worse and worse!—two separate popular editions of Scott, and new translations of Dumas *père*, have just come out, in spite of the assertions of the Epidermists that not even schoolboys could now be coaxed to read Sir Walter. Above all, Rudyard Kipling, who was so recently characterized by Mr. Howells as merely a young man with his hat cocked over one eye, holds the entire English-speaking world in fee as no other story-teller since Dickens has held it."

Having touched the name of Howells, the writer dwells upon that chord with considerable animation. He reviews the course pursued by Mr. Howells for the advancement of Realism while he edited and otherwise wrote for *Harper's Magazine*, and says:

"A propagandist as witty, resourceful, and assured as he, has not for so many years together and from so conspicuous a pulpit preached any literary gospel, good or bad, in America; and there were many of us who, while we read very little of his novels, never missed one of his monthly essays. They were significant, if only as symptoms; and then, perhaps the doctrine they uttered might be true. At any rate, it was very wholesome, if somewhat bewildering, at the start, to have our venerable idols challenged, and to receive from the lips of an evangelist the message which was to revolutionize literature, casting out its false gods, de-throning its arrogant sovereigns, leveling its exclusive aristocracies, and establishing a Simon-pure democracy which should be run forever on scientific principles. It took fortitude, until cus-

tom made us callous, to watch Mr. Howells, like another Tarquin, go up and down the poppy-field of literature, lopping off head after head which had brought delight to millions. The Greeks, of course, were smitten very early: they are always the first to excite the righteous rage of all sorts of reformers, and have been demolished so many times! Artistic principles—symmetry, grace, condensation, beauty—went next. . . .

"Incidentally we learned the tenets of Realism, and month by month we were introduced to Spanish and Russian masters of the new creed. A little later than some of us, but earlier than the masses, Mr. Howells discovered Tolstoi, and then we knew why the Greeks and art and Shakespeare had been previously swept away. For the great Russian, though he be in many aspects a master, has certainly no inkling of the Greek conception of art, no spark of Shakespeare's dramatic intensity. The Greek made his effects by selection, Tolstoi makes his by cumulation; the Greek's motto was 'Nothing superfluous,' Tolstoi's is, 'Put in everything, and then add a little more.' If you think of Russia as a vast flat prairie land, in which even a tree or hillock is an important feature, you may be reminded of Tolstoi; if you remember Greece, with its infinite variety of chiseled mountains and valleys, its individual headlands, its islands and lovely bays, with a luminous sky above and beautiful color on all below, you have, in contrast with him, the Greek. No Greek could so have sinned against his instinct for symmetry as to write 'War and Peace,' a story, or congeries of stories, stretching through twenty-five hundred pages—the equivalent in space of fifty 'Antigones' and of seven or eight Iliads. The Iliad is getting well on in years, and yet, if there existed a company for insuring the lives of literary works, some of us think that the Iliad would prove a better risk than 'War and Peace.'"

Mr. Thayer strenuously maintains that by imagination alone have all the highest creations of art and literature been produced; that the imagination is the supreme faculty which discovers reality—the faculty which synthesizes, vivifies, and constructs; that realism has been a phrase indicating the decadence of fiction, not its regeneration, and that realism has reached its logical culmination. In conclusion he says:

"But the knell of the Epidermists has sounded. The novels that are everywhere in demand are the novels with a story. Individually, they may be good or bad—it matters not: the significant fact is that the public taste has turned, and that that instinct which is as old as the children of Adam and Eve, the instinct for a story, has reasserted itself. . . . I hazard the prediction that our children, if they ever turn the pages of the masterpieces of realism, will wonder how we could once have read them; and that not because they will find in those pages much that is nasty (under the plea of science), and much that is morbid, and more that is petty, but because the prevailing note is dulness. Against dulness the gods themselves have no refuge save flight. . . .

"Epidermism has already found its true habitat in the sensational daily press: there, the kodak and the phonograph and the eavesdropper have untrammelled play; and moreover, the persons portrayed are really alive—which gives them an advantage against which the make-believe real people of Mr. Howells cannot in the long run compete; for if *realness* be the final test, the really real heroes of the newspapers must excel the make-believe real characters of Epidermist fiction. What chance has 'Sillas Lapham' with the barber or boot-blacks described, with illustrations, any day in the New York 'Scavenger'? . . . Of the shameless products—the obscenities and filth—we can at least predict that the time for foisting them, and all other matters not pertinent to fiction, upon us, under the plea of scientific impartiality, has passed; though doubtless from time to time some angel of the pit, some new Zola, will come to stir the surface of the cesspools of society."

THE newly discovered Chopin nocturne is to be printed at once in London. It consists of only sixty-three bars, and has the usual form of such works. A London critic who has seen the manuscript says that "it opens (Lento con grande expressione, C sharp minor) with an introduction of four bars in length, and is throughout simply constructed, the left hand having broken chords in accompaniment of themes which otherwise, save for a few bars, are not harmonized. Probably, therefore, the work belongs to the composer's youth. Its charm lies in the melody, which certainly savors of the marvelous Pole, having much character and distinction."

THE POSSIBLE POET-LAUREATE.

MANY poets have accorded to William Watson a right to wear the laurel. His name is prominent among those mentioned for Tennyson's successor. He is certainly one of the best of the younger English writers of verse, and every new poem that he gives out is eagerly caught by the critics; for, notwithstanding the place of honor that he holds now by reason of fine work, it is a question whether he can do anything better. If he cannot, the addition of his name to the list of English bards, though a welcome accession, is not a momentous fact. *The Saturday Review*, London, December 1, contains a very fair estimate of Mr. Watson. It says:

"He is one of the very few verse-writers of the present day who can be relied on to give us only his best work, and in that work we are certain to find the rare qualities—lessening every day in the literature which buzzes about us—of simplicity, sanity, and proportion. . . . He has an unusual dignity in general temper, an unusual gravity in the choice of subject. . . . He aims, certainly, at the highest mark; while others deliberately turn aside after the fantastic or the puerile, he bends all his energies to the task of writing what shall be classical. And, as we have intimated, he has certain classic qualities. No one can condense a thought or an impression into a more epigrammatic line or couplet; the sea, for instance,

"With wild white fingers snatching at the skies;
or the armed and ignoble peace of nations,

"War that sits smiling, with the eyes of Cain;
or the seductive charm of piety,

"My mind, half envying what it cannot share,
Reveres the reverence which it cannot feel."

"No one has learnt more from other poets than Mr. Watson has done, or, perhaps, to better purpose. Wordsworth, Matthew Arnold, Tennyson, have been his masters, and he has followed them far. They have taught him invaluable lessons, but there is one lesson which they have not taught him: they have not revealed him to himself. It is impossible to imagine Mr. Watson without Wordsworth, Matthew Arnold, and Tennyson. We admire in him an exquisite accomplishment, but we fail to grasp a new personality; we fail to find a new subject-matter. He seems always to be doing over again, almost as well, what has been already done better. How fine the actual result is may have been seen by the verses we have quoted, and will be seen better if we quote a complete poem. Here, for instance, is a sonnet called 'The Frontier':

'At the hushed brink of twilight,—when, as though
Some solemn journeying phantom paused to lay
An ominous finger on the awestruck day,
Earth holds her breath till that great presence go,—
A moment comes of visionary glow,
Pendulous 'twixt the gold hour and the gray,
Lovelier than these, more eloquent than they
Of memory, foresight, and life's ebb and flow.
So have I known, in some fair woman's face,
While viewless yet was Time's more gross imprint,
The first, faint, hesitant, elusive hint
Of that invasion of the vandal years
Seem deeper beauty than youth's cloudless grace,
Wake subtler dreams and touch me nigh to tears.'

Is not that admirable? And yet, even there do we feel so certain that no one but Mr. Watson could ever have written it? Is not what we feel, rather, that Mr. Watson comes of a fine lineage, or, if you will, of a good school; that he carries on great traditions? To do that is much, very much; it has been enough to make many solid reputations. But it is not everything, and it is not the greatest thing of all. The greatest thing of all is to bring something new into literature; to begin over again; to mark a new date in the calendar, from which men will come to reckon. Mr. Watson's work is so admirable that we are obliged to try him by the very highest standards, and he has already obtained, most justly, so wide a recognition that it is of some importance to consider exactly what are his claims. The genuine public success of so quiet, reticent, and craftsmanlike a writer as Mr. Watson (whose work, appealing to one, as it does, so largely by

its purely artistic qualities, seems at first sight anything but likely to succeed with the general public) is gratifying to all who care for the fortunes and the future of contemporary poetry. But, when we look into the matter closely, we see that this success is due in equal measure to the presence in Mr. Watson's work of certain fine qualities and the absence of others. The poetry which appeals widely to the average cultivated reader is the poetry which, while it comes in a new voice, is sufficiently like what he has been accustomed to read and admire. What is absolutely new shocks him by its very newness, by the strangeness inseparable from a new convention. Tennyson sprang into immediate popularity, partly on account of his actual merits, and partly because he had caught up into himself many of the more attractive qualities of his predecessors. Browning had to wait long for a grudging, and then an ignorant, admiration, partly because of his actual defects, and partly because he had brought something absolutely new into poetry. The merit, the defect, the cause of success, in Mr. Watson lie precisely in this: he has not found a new subject-matter, or revealed a new personality; but he has carried on a great tradition, almost faultlessly."



Very truly yours
William Watson

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A CRITICAL STUDY OF ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON.

STEPHEN GWYNN has written for *The Fortnightly Review* a "critical study" of Mr. Stevenson. The collected edition of the novelist's writings now in process of publication in several luxurious volumes makes what Mr. Gwynn calls his "formal diploma of renown," and Mr. Stevenson "becomes a classic." This critical study deals somewhat minutely with the novelist's works in about the order of their publication, and Mr. Gwynn decides that it is as a story-teller, and not as an essayist, that Stevenson will go down to posterity—a dictum to which there will be little if any opposition. We present a part of Mr. Gwynn's sketch of his subject:

"Mr. Stevenson belongs to that class of writers, who, with Horace at their head, have possessed, over and above their other gifts, the peculiar power of enlisting our affections. . . . 'Treasure Island,' if one considers it fairly, was the high-water mark of technical perfection among romances of this century. Scott never cared, as he frankly admits, to take much pains either with his style or his story, writing very rapidly and inventing as he went along. Thackeray, Mr. Stevenson's one superior in finish and felicity of manner, never troubled much about construction. Accordingly, when it was remembered that the author of this dramatically simple narrative had shown, in essays and minor stories, consummate mastery of a singularly ornate style, it seemed that a man who thus from the very outset united all the excellences, might attain to any imaginable height. But, as Mr. Stevenson's work developed itself, it displayed an ideal of art which has never been popular in this country. The characteristic English opinion makes art a matter of inspiration; and the public rather resents it when Mr. Stevenson comes and tells them that an art must be learned like any other trade, and even exposes his own procedure. In that very interesting essay, 'A College Magazine,' he has related how he learned to write by incessant

practice, above all by sedulous mimicry of great models. 'I lived with words,' he says; and the result is that formal excellence to which we have now grown accustomed, but which dazzled our judgment at the outset. Again, upon the vexed question of the artist's personality, and its right to appear, Mr. Stevenson sides with the French rather than the English authorities. If you want to display grief, Mr. Irving would say, you must feel inclined to weep. An actor who should so far forget himself as really to grieve, M. Coquelin has said, would be apt to weep unbecomingly and produce the wrong effect; in short, an artist must keep himself constantly in hand rather than let himself be carried away. This self-suppression Mr. Stevenson has rigidly practiced; the moralizing vein, inherent in his Scotch blood, has found an outlet only in his essays; but in all probability the public would have loved him better if he had interspersed his narrative with passages from 'Virginibus Puerisque.' The public is unreasonable; still, if I were hard pushed with a comparison between the 'Master of Ballantrae' and a good Waverley novel, I should have to admit that Mr. Stevenson's work looks like a racer in hard training. Every proportion is exact, every redundancy removed, and the result is admirable, but, if you wish to be malignant, a trifle artificial.

"Perhaps Mr. Stevenson has lived a little too much with words. If you set him by the unchallenged great ones, Scott, Dickens, and Thackeray, he is light and thin, he lacks their weight of human experience. His work does not seem, like theirs, to spring from the writer's very existence. The novel must ultimately rest upon experience, and the nature of the experience will determine the nature of the work. He has not the intensity of the Brontës, from whose strangled lives passion shot up like water from a fountain-pipe; he has not the serious reflective wisdom of George Eliot, nor her sense of the tragic issues that fill common life. He lacks the wide human experience, the personal contact with life, which informs the work of other great novelists. Fielding learned more in his police-court than ever he did from books, good scholar though he was. . . . Before Dickens began writing he learned the world by the struggle to exist; and he, like Thackeray, was till his death occupied with the business side of literature, editing magazines and papers. But Mr. Stevenson probably has not even to sell his own writings; his whole and sole business in life is to write; in short, he lives completely, as few literary men have done, the artist's existence. Tennyson did the same; but then Tennyson did not write novels. Mr. Stevenson has gone about like the artist in search of picturesque grouping; interested in his fellow men, but standing a little way off to see them better; gregarious enough, but only with his congeners; a gipsy, a vagrant, a Bohemian, and not a citizen, except in so far as the tax-collector has compelled him. Doubtless ill-health has kept him away from the active business of life; in Samoa he has shown himself willing to stir against oppression. Whatever the cause, from choice or chance, the fact remains that after all the years he has remained among us, he writes as a sojourner, an Egyptian, having no fixed foot, no strong ties, to any place or employment save his art. He is exclusively cosmopolitan; the aspects of life that interest him are peculiar to no age or country. If I wished to summarize his defects in a word, I should say—unhomeliness. . . .

"The truth is, we have come to look to Mr. Stevenson to redeem the tendencies of contemporary fiction; our debt to him cannot be measured by his influence on technical skill. The highest praise due to him is owed to the spirit of his work. Everywhere in it are present what he has himself called 'the radical qualities of honor, humor, and pathos.' He does not talk of a moral purpose, as is the custom of most writers who sail near the wind in matters of decency. No man is freer of prudery; yet the atmosphere of his characters, whether they do wrong or right, holds no infection. And though the South Seas send us these fruits of his restored health—they never sent us more welcome merchandise—it is impossible, it would be ungracious, to forget that this man for years, during the long uphill labor of an art that to him at least did not come instinctively, strove with the ravages of disease: and yet never in all that time did he let despondency infect his writings with an unmanly note, nor uttered for himself or for humanity the voice of despair."

[Since the above article was inserted, news has been received of the death of Mr. Stevenson, which occurred at his home in Samoa.]

RELATIONS OF PHOTOGRAPHY TO ART.

IT is not uncommon to hear the science of photography spoken of as an art, and not a few photographers have earnestly advocated the right of the camera's visions to rank, in a limited sense, with those of the pencil and the brush. This long-dis- cussed question is happily and judiciously treated by James Lawrence Breese in *The Cosmopolitan*, December. Among other things the writer says:

"Primarily, and in itself, photography is not an art, but a science. There are no circumstances in which a painter can paint well without using artistic judgment, but there are many circumstances under which a photographer may photograph well without using any but scientific judgment. This is one of the signs by which we may know that photography is primarily a science. And this may be illustrated in a simple way: thus, if a photographer were to be asked to photograph an interior, arranged by another, at a certain time of day and from a certain point of view, he would have a strictly mechanical task before him; he would have been robbed of the artistic functions of lighting, arrangement, and selection of point of view. On the other hand, a painter might be deprived of the same functions in a particular case, and still have an essentially artistic task to perform. But the privileges of which the photographer was robbed in the case I have mentioned, are privileges that belong to him; and it is because they belong to him, and because he may, and does, exercise these and other essentially artistic functions in connection with the strictly scientific processes of photography itself, that photography becomes, in general, more than a science. In the degree in which it is made a means of artistic expression, or in which it undertakes to set forth ideas as well as facts, it is art. Wherein it presents facts, it is a science. Wherein it presents ideas, it is an art. . . .

"The photographic artist has the privilege of posing in the case of portraiture, or point of view in the case of landscape. In posing his figure, he has his most difficult artistic task, for herein is a very close analogy to composition. With but few opportunities for after-modification, he must, necessarily, have his final effects in mind during the arrangement of draperies and accessories, while in the pose of the head he makes or mars the effect of the whole.

"Lighting the subject—or choosing the moment or time of day in the case of landscape—is closely associated with the artistic function of posing. In lighting a subject, the photographer has the privilege of a distinctly artistic advantage; and in this art he is always learning,—this painting with light is inexhaustible. The study of colors in the subject has always been very important. Before the days of orthochromatic photography (or photography in which the colors are translated more nearly in their proper relations to each other), this study was particularly important; and, under any conditions yet provided, it is necessary to regard color values. The reproduction being a monochromatic picture, the proportion of density in each color must be considered if the lights and shades in the result are to produce an agreeable sensation. In other words, the artist must be constantly remembering the limitations and exactions of his science. Nor does the artistic faculty cease to exercise itself after the plate has been exposed and carried into the dark-room. The artist in photography never forgets the artist's idea that is to appear in the resulting picture, and the development—scientific though it may be as a process—may, and should be, carried on with due regard for the harmony of all the elements."

Zola's Fourteenth Rejection by the Academy.—"M. Henry Houssaye's election to the French Academy means simply that the Academy prefers decent mediocrity to M. Zola and indecency. M. Houssaye is not a writer of much distinction, though not without pretensions to dilettante scholarship. He is called an art critic and a historian. Everybody in France is an art critic, and to be dubbed historian it is sufficient to put together a Bonapartist monograph. When you have done the two, the doors of the Palais Mazarin fly open. M. Zola has now been a candidate fourteen times. He did not on this occasion get a single vote. His reception in Italy may console him. It is true that the Pope refused to see him; but the King received him, and so did Signor Crispi. That was part of the calculation from the beginning. If you are a celebrity or even a notoriety you are sure to have an

audience of the Pope or the King. If the Pope excludes you, that is reason enough for the King to admit you, and *vice versa*. Such is the secret of M. Zola's interview with King Humbert. It is not very creditable to either."—*G. W. S.*, in *The Tribune*, New York, Dec. 9.

Pictures in "The Yellow Book."—*The Yellow Book* has not received a very cordial welcome at public literary and critical tables.

Its articles and its illustrations have alike been adversely commented upon. The articles belong to a class as old as the hills. They are trashy, and aim at success by being eccentric. Such things have been done from the beginning, and shall be till the end. But the pictures of *The Yellow Book* are of the new style in black and white, for which nobody has yet invented a name. We reproduce one of these pictures. It represents a lady at the toilet. Which is the lady and which the toilet can be decided by looking at the picture a little. The design has no legend, but it might appropriately be called "The Elongated Pain."

The Westminster Budget recently contained some stanzas on *The Yellow Book*, the closing one being this:

Some said "How clever!" some, "How vile!"
The man of sense, 'twixt yawn and smile,
Just voted it a bore.
That *Yellow Book*, of meanings dim,
A yellow nuisance was to him,
And it was nothing more.

NOTES.

A SELECTION from the unpublished MSS. left by Guy de Maupassant will shortly be issued by M. Ollendorff. The volume will comprise fragments of two novels on which the author was engaged when he was attacked by the illness which proved fatal—"L'Ame Etrangere" and "L'Angelus." Of the former only the opening chapter had been completed when he suspended the work, that his undivided attention might be given to carrying out the idea of the latter, which had suddenly fascinated him. In these latter days Maupassant's eyes as well as his mind were giving way, and it is said that he composed everything, down to the last nuance of phrase, in his head, so that he was able to write out his fair copy *currente calamo*.—*The Athenaeum*.

THE new Czar of Russia, it seems, is an author, the second part of his account of his travels in the Orient being announced for immediate publication by Brockhaus of Leipsic. There are certain obvious advantages about being a Czar and an author at the same time. It was the poet Campbell who praised Napoleon for one thing—he had the virtue to shoot a bookseller. In the Czar's case there will doubtless be little question about "royalties" in regard to his books should he go into the book-writing business extensively.—*The Interior*, Chicago.

TALKING of her different audiences to a London interviewer, says *The Philadelphia Ledger*, Bernhardt said she preferred, first of all, an English house, and then an American. "They always told me that you English were cold, but it is absolutely false. I can draw more tears from an English audience than from any other. The French, Italian, and other Latin races generally look upon me as an artiste, and, when I act, they are critically examining my technique. Now, the English, on the contrary, open their hearts to the spirit of the play. Once moved, they think no longer of me except as the person uttering words which are moving them strongly. They drink in, as it were, the very essence of the piece, and are driven to tears, like children. Oh, I love to play before an English audience; once they have opened their hearts to you and shown a little emotion they are your friends forever."

AFTER Victor Hugo died, more than 10,000 isolated verses were found scattered about his room, written on little slips of paper. He used to write incessantly, even while he was dressing himself in the morning.



SCIENCE.

DEPARTMENT EDITOR, - - - ARTHUR E. BOSTWICK, PH.D.

SHALL WE VACCINATE OUR CHILDREN?

THE answer to this question is now almost universally in the affirmative, but there are dissenting voices, and some of eminence. A noteworthy instance of these is found in an inaugural address delivered by Prof. E. M. Crookshank before the Medical Society of King's College, London, and published in full in *The Lancet*, London, November 24. Professor Crookshank concludes that the decline of small-pox since the terrible scourges of medieval days is due primarily to more efficient sanitation, and that the "stamping-out" process would be much the most efficient means of doing away with it altogether. He says, in conclusion:

"If the Local Government Board would only exercise as much energy in dealing with small-pox as with Asiatic cholera I believe we should get rid of the disease in six months. . . . Much good might result from the formation of a permanent International Board of Health. If civilization is not yet sufficiently advanced to admit of a system of international notification, our consular authorities should be instructed to give immediate notification of the existence of small-pox in other countries, and every measure should be enforced to diminish the possibilities of importation. The duties of a Central Health Office, presided over by a Minister of Health, should include the collection of information as to the existence of small-pox in other countries, and details should be published in the annual reports of the department. Regulations, for example, for dealing with the importation of rags from small-pox stricken places should be enforced as in the case of cholera; and if, in spite of these precautions, isolated cases occurred in this country, they should be promptly dealt with."

In addition to these precautions, Professor Crookshank recommends notification by special messengers, followed by immediate isolation and compulsory examination of persons suspected of having the disease. Of the present vaccination methods he speaks as follows:

"There are many who have confidence in vaccination. No doubt the best plan is to select nurses and other attendants whose duties bring them into contact with small-pox from those who have recovered from an attack of the disease, and, failing this, they might, with good reason, prefer to be inoculated, with due precautions, with small-pox lymph; but the compulsory inoculation of every member of the community with any kind of lymph or vaccine is in my opinion not only unnecessary but unjustifiable. . . .

"Vaccination is not a thing to be lightly undertaken in any case, and the conditions under which the infants of the poor are vaccinated are very unfavorable. Where there are no nurseries, no home comforts, and where often the mothers are unable to attend to their children, we must not be surprised at opposition, if even the result be only a sore arm. The communication of syphilis has been minimized, and even denied by the profession in the past; but Mr. Hutchinson's cases and the candid reports of Continental vaccinators have settled the question. And not only may erysipelas, skin eruptions, and severe ulceration, and complications causing prolonged ill-health occur, but even death may ensue. . . . It is a grave mistake, in my opinion, for any form of protective inoculation or medical treatment by means of vaccines or antitoxins to be enforced by the State; but in the case of sanitary regulations, which may inconvenience a few individuals while protecting the whole community, enforcement by the State is fully justified. Compulsory vaccination blocks the way to the development of a complete stamping-out system; but I venture to think that it will soon be abolished, and compulsory notification and isolation will be taken to prevent the importation and spread of the disease. If it be dangerous to prophesy, we may at least hope that the chronicler of the Twentieth Century will be able to say that the sanitary progress of the Nineteenth Century and the uniform adoption of the stamping-out system culminated in the complete extinction of small-pox in Great Britain."

In commenting editorially on Professor Crookshank's address, *The Lancet* says that it "cannot fail to arouse interest, not un-

mingled with astonishment at the extraordinary attitude which he thought fit to assume upon this most important question of the day," and asserts that while no one will disagree with him regarding the importance of preventive measures, vaccination has been proved to be by no means the least of these. It concludes as follows:

"The State may well pause before taking such advice as this, which has been proffered as an alternative to compulsory vaccination. . . . True, we may have learnt—and there is no want of faith in the admission—that vaccination does not secure us perfect immunity, as Jenner believed, but the invariable experience has been a vastly disproportionate fatality of the disease upon the unvaccinated as compared with the vaccinated, and a very marked difference also among the various classes and ages of the vaccinated. Professor Crookshank and his followers may choose to ignore these facts, may deride statistics and scoff at 'marks,' but if ever there was a question upon which statistics can afford a just basis of comparison it is this one. . . . The strength of the opposition to compulsory vaccination is not to be found in the statistics of small-pox, but in the allegation that the operation is itself not free from danger. How slight that danger is, having regard to the extent to which vaccination is practiced, and how the risks might be obviated by stringent observation of the ordinary rules of surgical procedure and care in the selection of the subjects, are facts which must be known to Professor Crookshank as well as to any one. Were the compulsory law to be repealed forthwith, the medical profession would be failing in their duty did they not impress on the community the lessons which every small-pox outbreak teaches. It is because they know as none others can know what an attack of small-pox really means to the unfortunate person who contracts the disease, and because they know as none others can know what is the value of vaccination in mitigating the severity of the disease, that they would feel bound to advocate its adoption by every parent in the case of, and for the sake of, his children."

The Blessedness of Beards.—"It is to be feared," says *The British Medical Journal*, London, November 24, "that too many men deprive themselves of what Shakespeare calls 'valor's excrement,' without counting the possible cost. Whether the beard be an ornament to the masculine countenance we must leave the ladies to decide; it certainly has its uses in hiding a weak chin, and in some cases it seems to be cultivated as vicarious compensation for a hairless scalp. It is not, however, in its cosmetic so much as in its hygienic aspects that the blessedness of the beard—in which term we include the whole of the harvest usually claimed by the razor—is most apparent. That it is a safeguard to the throat is generally admitted, and writers of authority have insisted on its value as a protection against toothache and facial neuralgia. This is a goodly sum of advantages to the credit of the beard. Dr. Chabbert, of Toulouse, has however yet more to say in its favor. According to this practitioner the beard seems to be a very efficient defense against that form of facial paralysis which is caused by cold. This affection is far more common in women than in men, though the latter are, of course, much more exposed to the cause which produces it. When facial paralysis *afrigore* does occur in men, they are almost invariably individuals to whom Nature has been stepmotherly in the matter of beard, or who have wantonly thrown away the protective covering with which she had clothed their faces. Dr. Chabbert cites the experience of several physicians, in addition to his own, in support of his opinion. Professor André, of Toulouse, has seen several cases of the affection in question in women, but not one in man. Professor Pitres, of Bordeaux, has seen twelve cases in women and only two in men; both the latter shaved, though as one of them underwent that operation only twice a week, his case perhaps does not count for much unless it be held that his face was more vulnerable after these periodical denudations. Similar observations are quoted from Dr. Olivier, of Toulouse, and Dr. Sudre, of Carmaux. These facts, though hardly sufficient to found an induction on, seem at least to establish a *prima facie* case for the utility of the beard against facial paralysis of the kind referred to. In these days when man's traditional privileges are one by one being invaded by the 'new woman,' he may perhaps be forgiven for making the most of such advantages as may be considered exclusively his own."

POSSIBILITY OF LIFE IN OTHER WORLDS.

CONJECTURE about the actual existence of living beings on the planets or their satellites is of course futile; but it is quite otherwise with speculation regarding the *possibility* of such existence, and this has long been a fascinating subject for the curious. The latest word upon it is said in *The Fortnightly Review*, November, by Sir Robert Ball, from whose article we make the following extracts:

"Regarding our Earth as a globe which constitutes a member of the Solar System, it can hardly be said to possess very extreme attributes. It does not appear to be marked out in any specially distinctive manner which would qualify it rather than certain of the other globes for becoming suitable abodes for life. The qualities which the Earth possesses are, generally speaking, conferred upon it in degrees intermediate to those in which other globes of the system are endowed with similar qualities. As the Earth was inhabited, it would seem only reasonable to assume that in this respect also it was not exceptional."

Sir Robert goes on to express the opinion that while recent research has in some respects impaired the argument for the possibility of life on other planets, yet on the whole it has strengthened that argument. For instance, it is now regarded as practically certain that the elements that enter as component parts into the framework of living creatures are as abundant upon some other planets as upon the Earth. He then speaks as follows of an instance in which the argument has been impaired:

"It seems to be generally true that the larger the dimensions of a planet, the greater is the internal heat which it still possesses. Into the reasons of this we need not now enter; suffice it to remark that the great globe of Jupiter in this respect offers a very marked contrast to the Earth. It seems to be highly probable, if indeed it be not certain, that Jupiter is at the present time heated to a temperature, at its surface, greatly in excess of the temperature of the surface of the Earth. We cannot indeed assign an actual value to the temperature of Jupiter, but there seems little doubt that it must be so great as to preclude the possibility of that globe being the abode of any types of life like those which flourish on the Earth. It is no doubt just conceivable that living beings of some strange and unknown fashion might endure the conditions which Jupiter appears to present; but I do not know anything which would make such a view likely. What we have said about Jupiter may, with certain modifications, apply also to Saturn, and in some degree to Uranus and to Neptune. It seems impossible that any of these great planets are at present abodes of life in any sense which is comprehensible to us. There is reason to think that, so far as internal heat is concerned, the planet Mars, as well as Venus and Mercury, occupy much the same position as the Earth."

So far as these last-named planets are concerned, therefore, Sir Robert thinks that climates and land distributions appropriate to certain organic types on the Earth are quite possible; but he thinks it would be impossible for us to form any conception of the biological characteristics of creatures adapted to residence in other worlds. He speaks, however, of one "merely mechanical matter" on which we can form some intelligent idea, namely, the weight of the several planets, and the effect of this weight upon the framework of living creatures. Calling attention to the fact that we are able to weigh the different planets, he proceeds as follows:

"If, for instance, a globe the same size as the Earth possessed double the mass of the Earth, the effect would be that the weight of each animal on the heavier globe would be double that on the Earth. A horse placed on the heavy globe would be subjected to a load which would oppress him as greatly as if while standing on our Earth, as at present constituted, he bore a weight of lead on his back which amounted to as many stones as the animal itself. Each leg of an elephant would be called upon to sustain just double the not inconsiderable thrust which at present such a pillar has to bear. A bird which soars here with ease and grace would find that the difficulty of such movements was greatly increased, even if they were not wholly impossible, on a globe of equal size

to the Earth, but double weight. It would seem as if flying animals must be the denizens of light globes, rather than of heavy ones.

"It is also easy to show that in general, other things being equal, the size of an animal should tend to vary in an inverse direction to that of the mass of the globe on which it dwells. . . . Generally, we may assert that, regarding only the point of view at present before us, the limbs of smaller animals would be better adapted for vigorous movement on great planets than would those of large creatures.

"It is, however, proper to bear in mind the point to which attention was, so far as I know, first called by Mr. Herbert Spencer. He has shown that there are excellent biological reasons, quite independent of those mechanical considerations to which I have referred, why it would be impossible for an efficient animal to be constructed by simply doubling every dimension of an existing animal. The support of the creature's life has to be effected by the absorption of nourishment through various surfaces in the body. But if all the dimensions are doubled, the bodily volume, as we have already mentioned, is increased eightfold, and therefore its sustenance would, generally speaking, require eight times the supply that sufficed for the original animal. On the other hand, supposing the same scale to be observed throughout the animal's body, the available surface area for absorption of nourishment has only increased fourfold, and therefore each square inch would have to do double duty in the large animal. If, however, the surfaces are at present at full work, it would seem impossible that they should efficiently undertake double the work they now get through. On this account, therefore, a live animal would seem impossible on a simple specification of dimensions twice those of any existing animal. Great structural modifications of pattern would have to accompany the enlargement of bulk. This, be it observed, is wholly independent of all questions as to gravitation.

"No reasonable person will, I think, doubt that the tendency of modern research has been in favor of the supposition that there may be life on some of the other globes. But the character of each organism has to be fitted so exactly to its environment, that it seems in the highest degree unlikely that any organism we know here could live on any other globe elsewhere. We cannot conjecture what the organism must be which would be adapted for a residence in Venus or Mars, nor does any line of research at present known to us hold out the hope of more definite knowledge."

USE OF PEAT IN SURGICAL OPERATIONS.

PEAT has long been used as a combustible where no better could be obtained, as near the bogs of Ireland, and it was once thought that by subjecting it to certain processes of manufacture a cheap and good fuel could be made from it; but this hope has not been realized. Now, however, peat is coming to the front in other connections, some of which—and especially its employment as an antiseptic surgical dressing—are described in an article by Emile Ende in *Cosmos*, Paris, November 10. We give a translation of the most interesting part of the article:

"Dr. H. Redon, an army surgeon, published in 1886 a very interesting note. Geologists, he said, unanimously give peat-water credit for being antiseptic, and for preserving the bodies of men and animals whole by transforming them into adipocere. Everybody knows the story of the discovery, three feet below the surface of a peat-bog, of a corpse which gave rise to a great discussion among savants and jurists as to whether it was that of a recently murdered person or that of some man accidentally buried—perhaps a thousand years ago! The corpse had kept its original volume, but its skin appeared as if it had been tanned. The muscles were almost completely destroyed and replaced by peat-water.

"Added to this, the custom of certain peasants of dressing their injuries with peat and of employing it as a domestic disinfectant, and, finally, the case of a workman in a peat bog who was seriously wounded in the forearm, far from aid, and who cured himself rapidly by applying a sod of peat, seem to confirm the opinion of the geologists.

"The case of the workman merits further consideration. Soon after the application of the peat, the pain stopped and no infiltration

tion of blood appeared. The wounded man did not, at that time, even try to find a physician. Ten days afterward, when he entered a hospital and the peat was removed, the appearance of the wound was very satisfactory. Though it reached the bone, cicatrization was proceeding properly without any inflammatory reaction, and recovery was prompt.

"After this, Neuber tried some experiments, at first on dogs, but about 1882 on man, applying muslin bags full of powdered peat directly to wounds and retaining them by bandages. Neither the muslin nor the peat had been previously treated with antisepsics—they were simply moistened at the moment of the operation with a solution of sublimate. The results were very favorable, the absence of the formation of pus being remarked in the majority of cases. It was concluded from this that peat has actually inherent antiseptic qualities, due perhaps to the acids of the humus.

"In 1884, at the Congress of Surgery, Liesrinck particularly insisted upon the utility of such a form of dressing in military surgery, and proposed a new method of employment, that of plates of peat. In Russia, as in Germany, the method has been greatly extended. Bielzoff declares that the qualities of peat and its cheapness make it a typical surgical dressing.

"In France it has had less success; nevertheless a great medical authority can be quoted in its favor—Dr. Just Lucas Champonnière, surgeon of the St. Louis Hospital. 'The peat wadding,' says this savant, 'ought, it seems to me, to replace almost completely the ordinary wadding, absorbent cotton, salicylated wadding, and even part of the antiseptic tissues that usually compose dressings. . . . Above all, where suppuration has taken place, it replaces lint advantageously and very economically. . . . Finally, I believe that peat-wadding is capable of a large number of hygienic applications, such as for cushions and receptacles for noxious substances that are to be afterward burned.'

"According to M. Waldteufel, veterinary of the French army, aseptic wadding and antiseptic powder of peat is used frequently in veterinary medicine. The method is employed in the surgical clinics of the veterinary schools of Alfort and Toulouse. A dressing of peat wadding can remain applied to a wound for weeks without having the least odor when it is taken off. Peat wadding and powder are absorbent in a very high degree, and consequently leave no pus remaining within or around wounds. This property is of capital importance in the treatment of injuries of the horse."

"How is medicinal peat obtained industrially? For it is quite evident that though the historic dressing of the workman wounded in the peat-bog served as a point of departure, in attracting the attention of men of science, no practician would to-day plaster up wounds with peat from a bog!"

"A difficulty arises from the fact that the filaments of peat are short. And the problem presents itself not only to the surgeon but in a whole series of industries that have for years sought the utilization of waste fiber in the manufacture of heavy stuffs for hangings, cheap upholstery, carpets, etc., representing an annual weight of several million kilograms. The solution, it appears, has been found in Holland, and I have seen truly wonderful specimens, coming from factories that have been working for more than a year under very satisfactory mechanical and economical conditions. The French market has already absorbed them in considerable quantities. The process is a secret, and it is possible to speak only of the result; that, however, is the main thing, for in an industry we see the end rather than the means."

"The Hollanders are noted for practical common sense, and the Society for the Development of Industry (Groningen) gives specific encouragement to 'articles of utility made with a substance which was despised for centuries, though it could be obtained so cheaply.'

"As for me, I have seen for myself. I did not believe that it was possible to make so much out of peat—coverlets, doormats, carpets, mattresses, not to mention the wadding for surgical dressings, of which we have been speaking. Not only are coverings made for simple mortals; they are made also for horses, who like them very much, so it is said. Finally, it appears that, mixed with wool, peat forms a 'health-flannel' that has already been recommended by several physicians. I confess that if I were a physician I would not recommend so powerful a remedy, for it seems to me able to suppress all maladies, and then what would become of the doctors? Joking aside, I believe that it is a very useful discovery, especially for warm countries."—*Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

MICROBES OF OLD AGE.

THAT bacteria have anything to do with old age would seem to be bacteriology gone stark, staring mad; yet such would seem to be more than a possibility. Physiologists have long known that a characteristic change takes place in the tissues in advanced life, and its cause forms an interesting subject of investigation. The following extracts are from an editorial article on the subject in *Modern Medicine*, November:

"A few years ago an Italian bacteriologist proclaimed that he had discovered the 'germ of old age.' The idea was scouted by all scientific men, but there may be something in it, after all. At any rate there seems to be good ground for believing that germs, if not a specific germ, are at least one of the most important influences which bring on old age.

"It has long been known that the ptomaines or toxic substances produced by microbes are capable of setting up various degenerative processes. Degenerative changes in the joints, the liver, the kidneys, and other organs, have been directly traced to this cause. . . .

"The writer has for some time held the opinion that the degenerative changes incident to advancing age are due to the same cause; namely, the toxins absorbed from the alimentary canal. These toxins are constantly present in greater or less quantity, according to the extent to which fermentative and putrefactive processes prevail in the stomach and intestines. These processes depend, first, upon the integrity of the digestive process in the individual, and, secondly, upon the character of the substances introduced into the alimentary canal as food. . . .

"These considerations suggest at once the thought that while all human beings must necessarily be constantly subject to the influence of toxic substances generated in their own alimentary canal, and consequently must grow old and succumb sooner or later to the degenerative processes of old age, these processes may be greatly accelerated by subsisting upon a diet which favors the production of toxic substances in the alimentary canal.

"If this theory is correct, we should expect to find the greatest longevity among those animals and those men who subsist upon the simplest and purest diet, other conditions being equal. It would be impossible to find a sharper contrast than that which exists in this respect between carnivorous and vegetarian animals. Contrast, for example, the dog which grows old, becomes rheumatic and infirm in eight or ten years, with the donkey, which lives a useful life to forty or fifty years, and the elephant, which is still active and useful at a hundred years. The same is true among men. The greatest number of persons now alive above one hundred years of age are to be found among Russian peasants, who rarely taste meat. These people have been practical vegetarians for so many centuries—perhaps from the earliest ages—that anatomists have noted a distinct difference in the length of their alimentary canals as compared with those of the flesh-eating Germans, whose ancestors were cannibals. . . .

"Rheumatism in its protean forms is one of the most constant and distressing disorders of old age. The relation between English roast beef and the gout and rheumatism which prevail so extensively among Englishmen, was clearly pointed out by that distinguished physician and essayist, J. Milner Fothergill.

"The above considerations, if not considered absolutely conclusive, are certainly worthy of thought."

How Long is a Stalactite in Forming?—The length of time necessary for the formation of a stalactite has long been a moot question. Recent results seem to indicate that it varies greatly with the conditions. Prof. Franz Adami writes from Bayreuth, Bavaria, to *The American Naturalist*, December, that in 1873 the authorities of that city built a reservoir for the town water-supply, which contains traces of lime. On the roof of an arch underneath this reservoir stalactites began to form, which in the present year had grown to a length of 30 centimeters (about a foot). This is a vastly quicker rate than that usually assumed. In an editorial note *The Naturalist* remarks that it had been thought that in Wyandot cave a layer of stalagmite had required one thousand years to attain a thickness of ten inches, and says that Professor Adami's statement "is one of the sort of valuable observations which has shaken faith in the worth of all age-tests based on stalagmite or stalactite."

The Forests of Russia.—There are indications, according to *The Iron Industry Gazette*, Buffalo, November, that the forests in the proximity of iron-works in the Ural district in Russia are becoming exhausted. A commission, which has recently examined the subject, reports that out of 91 iron-works 36 consume a greater quantity of wood than is replaced by the year's growth of the forests within available distance, and in the case of 19 the consumption is about equal to the annual accretion. The first category of works must contract, and the second cannot increase in production, except in so far as they are able to effect economy in the use of wood or to replace it by other fuel. Over 30 per cent. of the area of European Russia, including the Caucasus, is forest. But that fact gives no correct idea of the extent to which consumers throughout Russia have wood at their disposal. For while the northern districts have some 54 per cent. of forest area, and the central Volga and lake districts 30 per cent., the Moscow trading regions, Poland and the Baltic provinces have only from 23 to 17 per cent. of forest, and the black-soil steppes have practically none. Less than half of Russia is rich in forest, one-fifth is poorer than Germany or France, and one-eighth has scarcely any forest.

How Plants Breathe.—In a communication to the Paris Academy of Science on the mechanism of vegetable respiration, M. Maquenne states that when a leaf is placed in a vacuum the immediate effect is to augment the proportion of oxygen absorbed and at the same time that of the carbon dioxide given off; in other words, to render respiration more active. This fact, which is independent of possible variations in the ratio of carbon dioxide to oxygen, at least for species studied by the author, makes it possible to state the following conclusion: The respiration of plants seems to be the result of the slow combustion of an eminently oxidizable principle, constantly secreted by the living cell when sheltered from the light, and susceptible of accumulation there when there is a deficiency of oxygen in the surrounding atmosphere.

The Proposed Storage Reservoir in Egypt.—The great storage reservoir to be built by the English on the Upper Nile, so as to regulate and control the flow of the river and render available for cultivation thousands of acres of new land, was seriously objected to by all lovers of antiquity in the civilized world because it would submerge the ruins of the temple at Philae. We learn from *Engineering*, London, November 23, that a modification of the plan has now been made by the Egyptian Ministry of Public Works, by which the dam will be built twenty-six feet lower than at first proposed, so that only the lower part of the island, with some unimportant ruins, will be under water. This will supply enough water for either Middle or Lower Egypt, but not for both. The need of a reservoir is said to be urgent, as the demands of cultivators for water now exceed the supply.

RECENT SCIENCE.

Electricity in Bridge-Building.—In a bridge now being built near Kiel, Germany, four cranes, two of the locomotive and two of the pivoting type, are employed, instead of the usual hoisting appliances, and are all worked by electricity. According to the *Electrotechnische Zeitschrift*, as quoted in *The Engineering and Mining Journal*, December 8, loads of 10 tons are raised in 20 minutes, and smaller loads at a much quicker rate. Two compound dynamos, disposed in parallel, act as generators, driven by a steam engine of 25 H.P. As the consumption of the motive power in the cranes was very variable, variable resistances, composed of spirals of nickelene attached to slabs of slate, are interposed, as required, by an automatic appliance. The electric circuit comprises three parallel wires $\frac{1}{4}$ in. in diameter, with a total length in both directions of three-quarters of a mile. In order to work the cranes, which have a dead weight of their own of 33 tons, at a speed of 6 inches per second, the electromotor requires a current of 40 amperes and 210 volts.

The Age of Niagara Falls.—The last word on this subject, which is of great geologic importance, because the falls have been made to serve as a sort of standard by which all geologic time is measured, is said by J. W. Spencer (*American Journal of Science*, December) who concludes from the measured rate of

recession during 48 years, together with other geologic data not usually taken into account, that the falls are 31,000 years old and the river 32,000; also, that the Huron drainage was turned from the Ottawa River into Lake Erie less than 8,000 years ago. He thinks that the lake epoch began 50,000 or 60,000 years ago, and that the falls have about 5,000 years more to live, at the end of which time their waters will discharge into the Mississippi.

Recent Discoveries about Bacteria.—According to a recent address of Dr. E. L. Fox as president of the British Medical Association, two kinds of bacilli together may produce much more serious results than one kind by itself. For instance, the suppurations accompanying tuberculosis are due partly to the tubercle bacillus itself, and partly to other micro-organisms. While the fatality of diphtheria depends on the poison secreted by its characteristic bacillus, the presence of streptococci renders the disease more grave, the increased virulence being due to the existence of both these organisms together.

Bashfulness in Children.—Prof. J. Mark Baldwin, of Princeton (*Educational Review*, New York, December), from a study of this trait concludes that "we have in it direct evidence of the growth of the social instinct by accretions from experiences of social conditions—or from the adding up of variations all fitted to survive socially—and direct evidence, further, of the lines of progress which these experiences and variations have marked out. For the infant is an embryo person, a social unit in the process of forming; and he is, in these early stages, plainly recapitulating the items in the social history of the race." Professor Baldwin thinks accordingly, "that several important hints at the history of societies, both animal and human, are afforded by the phenomena of bashfulness. . . . Organic bashfulness would seem to represent the instinctive fear shown by the higher animals, coupled with the natural family and gregarious instincts which they have. This shades up into the more fearless and more confiding attitudes of certain possibly peaceable creatures, which take kindly to domestication, and depend more upon animal organizations and natural defenses such as those afforded by geographical distribution, coloration, habits of life, etc., for their protection. . . . Then, only in man, of course, do we find the stage of reflective thought on self and the social relations of self, which is seen germinating in the child in the third year or later."

Combustible Dung.—On the subject of recent Press notices regarding the employment of cow-dung as a combustible, M. Perquiné, speaking of its use in the Vendée, among the inhabitants of Marais, says that the fabrication of cakes of dung to be burned gives opportunity for a curious ceremony called by the peasants *les noces noires* [the black nuptials]. This singular combustible, he adds, produces much smoke and gives out an ammoniacal odor that is suffocating to one unused to it, and no doubt has its effect even on the mucous membranes of the natives themselves. The cookery has of course a frightful flavor. Think of eating chops broiled over such a fire! The ashes resulting from the fire are sold as a fertilizer to the inhabitants of the Bocage, who often go seven or eight leagues to get them. Formerly they brought in exchange a cartload of wood, but now the inhabitants of Marais sell their ashes for cash, and at so good a price that their fuel practically costs them nothing.—*Cosmos, Paris, November 3*.

SCIENCE NOTES.

IN the City Electrical Light Works, Baltimore, a rat recently stepped from one brass terminal of the station switchboard to another, thus short-circuiting it and receiving 2,700 volts through his body. The result was that hundreds of houses were suddenly plunged in darkness. The hair of the rat was completely burned off and the body was instantly carbonized, but it was rendered so rigid that when discovered it was quite life-like, the attitude being that of a living rat just stepping across a small hole.

IT is said that the late Hans von Bülow left directions that a post-mortem examination of his brain should be made to ascertain the cause of the excruciating headache from which he was a life-long sufferer. The autopsy revealed the fact that the end of the nerves had become embedded in a scar of an injury to the brain that he had received in childhood.

A NUMBER of lepers have been discovered in Eastern Prussia, especially at Königsberg and at Memel, about seventy miles from Königsberg. In this latter district alone, ten genuine cases of leprosy have been found, and the disease has been officially declared to exist in these districts.

A FRENCH writer recommends, in cases of ingrowing toe-nail, the painting of the nail with a warm forty per cent. solution of caustic potash. In a few seconds the nail becomes so soft that it can be scraped away, except a small layer, which can be removed by small scissors.

THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

POEMS OF CHRISTMASTIDE.

VERY few really good poems have appeared this Christmas season. Perhaps the poets feel that our literature contains so many excellent odes, hymns, and lyrics on the subject that there is no demand for anything new. In truth, Milton's immortal "Ode on the Morning of Christ's Nativity" is in itself all-sufficient for souls to whom the sweet solemnity of Christmastide appeals.

The strongest poem appearing just now is by Alice Archer Sewall, in *Harper's Magazine*. This is indeed fine:

MADONNA AND CHILD.

Little Son, little Son, climb up to my breast,
And lie amid its warmth at rest.
But shut those stranger eyes from me,
My Rose, my Sorrow, my Peace divine,
And call me "mother" and not "Mary,"
Although thou art not mine.

O, weep not if I hold thee tight,
For 'mid unheeding kine at night
I dream thee weak and needing me;
Forget thy royalty, croon and coo;
Pretend thee little, and handle thee
As other mothers do.

Thine eyes are closed, but He who keeps
Watch over Israel never sleeps!
And when I sleepless lie by thee
Thy little hands mine eyes do blind
And move across them soothingly,
And feel so large and kind.

It is I would climb to thy little breast.
O, hold me there and let me rest!
It is I am weak and weary and small,
And thy soft arms can carry me.
So put them under me, God, my All,
And let me quiet be.

George Parsons Lathrop contributes to *The Century* a poem imbued with deeply sacred feeling and spiritual adoration of the Divine. The poem is marked by that spirit of homage which characterizes nearly all of Mr. Lathrop's later verse. These are the stanzas:

THE FIRST WORD.

Silence mysterious of the Word divine,
That speaks not as with lips, and yet is heard;
Wherefrom all life grows like a springing vine,
All thought comes winging like the herald bird!
Was it not such a silence brooded there—
Sweet, restful hush as of the glimmering dawn
When watchful Joseph knelt in holy prayer
Beside the cradled Prince of Peace new born?
The slow moon passed, and fruitful silence kept
Its home within the sacred, simple child.
Yet Truth was in his breathing while he slept:
Heaven's life shone from him when he woke and smiled.
Upon the infant silence of his face
Calm meditation of his mother's eye
In silence rested, pure and full of grace;
Voiceless, yet speaking, like the eternal sky.
So Blessed Mary and Saint Joseph held
Their vigils o'er the Word incarnate made;
Waiting the utterance pure, that earliest welled
From that deep heart, those lips in light arrayed.
When was it spoken? When did that first word
Break on the faithful ear of listening Time?
We know not. But its gentle accent stirred
All Earth and Heaven as with a glorious chime
What was the word? We know not. On an eve
Perchance like this, when God's clear splendor shone
Through sunset, and made doubting hearts believe
They dwelt not on this distant Earth alone—
On such an eve, when level lines of cloud
Glowed like archangels' wings, and seemed so near,
The Christ-child spoke, and looked up, open-browed;
And from that instant, died all mortal fear.
Whate'er the word, it meant Truth, Peace, and Love.
The Heavens bowed down; the Earth rose up in joy,
Transfigured in a glory from above!
The Virgin-mother knelt, and kissed her boy.

In *The Traveler's Record* we find the following beautiful old Scandinavian legend done into rhyme by one of the South's best poets, Lizette W. Reese, who is a daughter of Maryland:

CHRISTMAS EVE.

Christ was born upon this Night;
Mistress, spin no more;
Master, seven good candles light;
The Dead are at the door.

He, that with his ship was lost,
Happ'd in the salt sod;
She that at white Pentecost
Left us for her God;

One that went long time ago;
One for bridal clad;
One with golden locks a-flow,
Just a little lad.

Master, the long grave is sweet
By the old sea-wall;
Mistress, they that part shall meet—
Christ was born for all.

Spread the cloth as white as snow;
Sprigs of rosemary set;
That the blessed dead may know
We remember yet.

Pour the wine and break the bread;
Put green boughs about;
We, too, be remembered
When our day is out!

John Albee, the New England mystic, writes in his own peculiar vein for *The Outlook*, from which we clip this sonnet:

DECEMBER.

For old December who has any care?
Low suns, cold earth and bare, long nights, short day,
Its close we wish, and to be well away;
The grave of deep oblivion it may share,
That we, impatient—like a forward heir,
Contracting debts he waits on death to pay
And ruined if to come it long delay—
May hasten on and New Year fortunes wear.
One day alone of all the month is blest,
The dying year's most rare and splendid flower,
Earth's dearest prize and heaven's most costly gem;
For on that day, from sin mankind had rest,
And knew again its long-lost spiritual power,—
That day a Child was born in Bethlehem.

Do we not all "feel" Christmas in the air as the sacred and happy season approaches? The line of Tennyson's "In Memoriam"—

"The time draws near the birth of Christ—"

though read in mid-Summer, instantly paints to the imagination a Winter scene and rekindles in the heart a hallowed glow. It makes one "feel" Christmas. James Whitcomb Riley, who never sounds a false note of sentiment, gives us a poem on this theme, in *The Cosmopolitan*:

A FEEL IN THE CHRIS'MAS AIR.

They's a kind o' *feel* in the air, to me,
When the Chris'mas times sets in,
That's about as much of a mystery
As ever I've run ag'in!—
For instance, now, whilst I gain in weight
And gineral health, I swear
They's a *goneness* somers I can't quite state—
A kind o' *feel* in the air.

They's a *feel* in the Chris'mas air goes right
To the spot where a man *lives* at!—
It gives a feller a' appetite—
They ain't no doubt about *that*!—
And yit they's *somepin'*—I don't know what—
That follers me, here and there,
And ha'nts and worries and spares me not—
A kind o' *feel* in the air!

They's a *feel*, as I say, in the air that's jest
As blame-don sad as sweet!—
In the same ra-sho as I feel the best
And am spryest on my feet,
They's allus a kind o' sort of a' *ache*
That I can't lo-cate no-where;—
But it comes with *Chris'mas*, and no mistake!—
A kind o' *feel* in the air.

Is it the racket the children raise?
W'y, *no!*—God bless 'em!—*no!*
Is it the eyes and the cheeks ablaze—
Like my own wuz, long ago?—
Is it the beat o' the whistle and beat
O' the little toy-drum and blare
O' the horn?—*No! no!*—It is jest the sweet—
The sad-sweet feel in the air.

D. L. MOODY—THE MAN AND THE EVANGELIST.

THE name of D. L. Moody, once so common in daily print, is now but occasionally seen, and doubtless many persons who have not kept track of the great evangelist wonder what has become of him—the man whose very overflow revival meetings in both America and Great Britain used to outnumber whole contiguous church congregations; whose short sermons were seeds from which sprang new churches and which restored dying ones to life; whose advent into any village, town, or city magnetized and electrified men, women, and children by hundreds and thousands, and whose prayers and solicitations sent mortgages flying on every hand from debt-ridden altars.

Fifty-seven years ago (February 5, 1837) Mr. Moody was born in Northfield, Connecticut, where he lives to-day when he is not out preaching, and where Prof. Henry Drummond, writing for *McClure's Magazine*, December, describes the extensive educational institutions founded at the evangelist's own expense to equip young men for evangelical work. It is not Prof. Drummond's object to give a detailed account of Mr. Moody's career nor of his private life; "all that is designed," says the writer, "is to give the reader some few particulars to introduce him to and interest him in the man." Prof. Drummond briefly sketches Moody's early life in Boston, where he was converted, and in Chicago, where he did his first impressive Christian work. Passing over the brief biographical data, we quote from the article its more interesting parts:

"Simple as this man is, and homely as are his surroundings, probably America possesses at this moment no more extraordinary personage; nor even among the most brilliant of her sons has any rendered more stupendous or more enduring service to his country or his time. No public man is less understood, especially by the thinking world, than D. L. Moody. It is not that it is unaware of his existence, or even that it does not respect him. But his line is so special, his work has lain so apart from what it conceives to be the rational channels of progress, that it has never felt called upon to take him seriously. So little, indeed, is the true stature of this man known to the mass of his generation, that the preliminary estimate recorded here must seem both extravagant and ill-considered. To whole sections of the community the mere word evangelical is a synonym for whatever is narrow, strained, superficial, and unreal. Assumed to be heir to all that is hectic in religion, and sensational in the methods of propagating it, men who, like Mr. Moody, earn this name are unconsciously credited with the worst traditions of their class. It will surprise many to know that Mr. Moody is as different from the supposed type of his class as light is from dark; that while he would be the last to repudiate the name, indeed, while glorying more and more each day he lives in the work of the evangelist, he sees the weaknesses, the narrownesses, and the limitations of that order with as clear an eye as the most unsparing of its critics. But especially will it surprise many to know that while preaching to the masses has been the main outward work of Mr. Moody's life, he has, perhaps, more, and more



1854. Age 17. Mr. Moody as he appeared at the time he removed from the family farm to Boston.



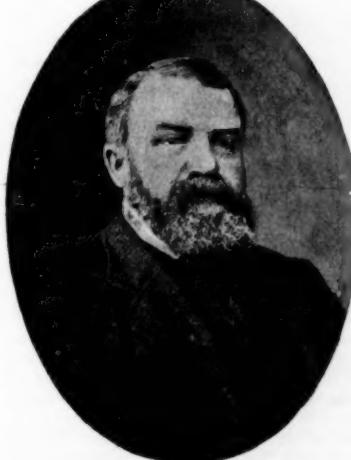
1863. Age 26.

varied, iron in the fire—educational, philanthropic, religious—than almost any living man; and that vast as has been his public service as a preacher to the masses, it is probably true that his personal influence and private character have done as much as his preaching to affect his day and generation. . . .

"The taunt is sometimes leveled at religion that mainly those become religious teachers who are not fit for anything else. The charge is not worth answering; but it is worth recording that in the case of Mr. Moody the very reverse is the case. If Mr. Moody had remained in business, there is almost no question that he would have been to-day one of the wealthiest men in the United States. His enterprise, his organizing power, his knowledge and management of men, are admitted by friend and foe to be of the highest order; while such is his generalship—as proved, for example, in the great religious campaign in Great Britain in 1873-75—that, had he chosen a military career, he would have risen to the first rank among leaders. One of the merchant princes of Britain, the well-known director of one of the largest steamship companies in the world, assured the writer lately that in the course of a life-long commercial experience he had never met a man with more business capacity and sheer executive ability than D. L. Moody. Let any one visit Northfield, with its noble piles of institutions, or study the history of the work conceived, directed, financed, and carried out on such a colossal scale by Mr. Moody during the time of the World's Fair at Chicago, and he will discover for himself the size, the mere intellectual quality, creative power, and organizing skill of the brain behind them. . . .

"Were one asked what, on the human side, were the effective ingredients in Mr. Moody's sermons, one would find the answer difficult. Probably the foremost is the tremendous conviction with which they are uttered. Next to that is their point and direction. Every blow is straight from the shoulder, and every stroke tells. Whatever canons they violate, whatever fault the critics may find with their art, their rhetoric, or even with their theology, as appeals to the people they do their work, and with extraordinary power. If eloquence is measured by its effects upon an audience, and not by its balanced sentences and cumulative periods, then here is eloquence of the highest order. In sheer persuasiveness Mr. Moody has few equals, and rugged as his preaching may seem to some, there is in it a pathos of a quality which few orators have ever reached, an appealing tenderness which not only wholly redeems it but raises it not unseldom almost to sublimity. No report can do the faintest justice to this or to the other most characteristic qualities of his public speech, but here is a random specimen:

"I can imagine when Christ said to the little band around him, 'Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel,' Peter said, 'Lord, do You really mean that we are to go back to Jerusalem and preach the gospel to those men that murdered You?' 'Yes,' said Christ, 'go, hunt up that man that spat in My face; tell him he may have a seat in My kingdom yet. Yes, Peter, go find that man that made that cruel crown of thorns and placed it on My brow, and tell him I will have a crown ready for him when he comes into My kingdom, and there will be no thorns in it. Hunt up that man that took a reed and brought it down over the cruel thorns, driving them into My brow, and tell him I will put a scepter in his hand, and he shall rule over the nations of the earth, if he will accept salvation. Search for the man that drove the spear into My side, and tell him there is a nearer way to My heart than that. Tell him I for-



1882. Age 45. From a photograph by Pierre Letit, Paris.

give him freely, and that he can be saved if he will accept salvation as a gift.'

"Tell him there is a nearer way to My heart than that—prepared or impromptu, what dramatist could surpass the touch? . . .

"After the early Chicago days the most remarkable episode in Mr. Moody's career was his preaching tour in Great Britain. The burning down of his church in Chicago severed the tie which bound him to the city, and though he still retained a connection with it, his ministry henceforth belonged to the world. Leaving his mark on Chicago, in many directions—on missions, churches, and, not least, on the Young Men's Christian Association—and already famous in the West for his success in evangelical work, he arrived in England, with his colleague, Mr. Sankey, in June, 1873. The opening of their work there was not auspicious. Two of the friends who had invited them had died, and the strangers had an uphill fight. No one had heard of them; the clergy received them coldly; Mr. Moody's so-called Americanisms prejudiced the super-refined against him; the organ and the solos of Mr. Sankey were an innovation sufficient to ruin almost any cause. For some time the prospect was bleak enough. In the town of Newcastle finally some faint show of public interest was awakened. One or two earnest ministers in Edinburgh went to see for themselves. On returning they reported cautiously, but on the whole favorably, to their brethren. The immediate result was an invitation to visit the capital of Scotland; and the final result was the starting of a religious movement, quiet, deep, and lasting, which moved the country from shore to shore, spread to England, Wales, and Ireland, and reached a climax two years later in London itself. . . .

"The fact that Mr. Moody has a pocket has been largely dwelt upon by his enemies, and the amount and source of its contents are subjects of curious speculation. I shall suppose the critic to be honest, and divulge to him a fact which the world has been slow to learn—the secret of Mr. Moody's pocket. It is, briefly, that Mr. Moody is the owner of one of the most paying literary properties in existence. It is the hymn-book which, first used at his meetings in conjunction with Mr. Sankey, whose genius created it, is now in universal use throughout the civilized world. Twenty years ago, he offered it for nothing to a dozen different publishers, but none of them would look at it. Failing to find a publisher, Mr. Moody, with almost the last few dollars he possessed, had it printed in London in 1873. The copyright stood in his name; any loss that might have been suffered was his; and to any gain, by all the laws of business, he was justly entitled. The success, slow at first, presently became gigantic. The two evangelists saw a fortune in their hymn-book. But they saw something which was more vital to them than a fortune—that the busybody and the evil tongue would accuse them, if they but touched one cent of it, of preaching the gospel for gain. What did they do? They refused to touch it—literally even to touch it. The royalty was handed direct from the publishers to a committee of well-known business men in London, who distributed it to various charities. When the evangelists left London, a similar committee, with Mr. W. E. Dodge at its head, was formed in New York. For many years this committee faithfully disbursed the trust, and finally handed over its responsibility to a committee of no less weight and honor—the trustees of the Northfield seminaries, to be used henceforth in their behalf. Such is the history of Mr. Moody's pocket. It is pitiful to think that there are men, and journals, both at home and abroad, who continue to accuse of self-seeking a man who has given up a princely fortune in noble—the man of the world would say superfluous—jealousy for the mission of his life. Once we heard far more of this. That Mr. Moody has lived it down is not the least of his triumphs."

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SOMEBODY recently sent Henry Irving an anti-theatrical broadside issued by a number of Wesleyan ministers, says a London exchange. In a brief reply he writes "that he deeply regrets to see any ministers of religion putting forth such statements as those contained in the pamphlet sent, and which—if they know their business as dealers with the needs of men—they must know to be, as general statements, untrue. It is such narrow-minded intellectual turpitude which helps to keep so many poor souls outside the aided and gracious circle of religion. It is needful for even those who call themselves Christians 'to take heed' as they stand 'lest they should fall.' There are many roads and ways to the pit—and a perversion of the boundless charity of the Master is surely one of these."

A GEOLOGIST'S EXPLANATION OF THE FLOOD.

IN these days, when many men of science are engaged in overthrowing the Biblical narratives, and others contemptuously ignore them, it is worthy of note that there are still some who devote time and study to the interpretation of these narratives in the light of the latest scientific knowledge. Among these is the Swiss geologist, M. Raymond de Girard, who, in a work that is partly a commentary on the investigations of the German geologist Suess, maintains that the Noahian cataclysm was due to a combination of seismic phenomena, and was limited in its effects to the basin of the Tigris and Euphrates. This theory he endeavors to substantiate both by appeals to the topography and existing phenomena of the region, and by the accounts in Genesis and in the Chaldean poems. We subjoin extracts translated and condensed from an account of the theory published in three successive numbers of *Cosmos*, Paris, October 20—November 3, by C. de Kirwan:

"The great merit of the theory is that it reconciles the historic authenticity of the occurrence with the complete absence of physical traces left by it. This theory is based wholly on the effects of seismic phenomena combined with those of tempests and cyclones, the effect of rain being of relatively slight importance, though cyclones often cause considerable bodies of water to swell beyond their customary limits. But the chief agents of great inundations are earthquakes, which bring about these three effects:

"1. They displace continental waters; that is, cause lakes and rivers to overflow.

"2. They cause sea-waves, called sea-quakes or waves of translation, which are propagated with greater or less velocity across the liquid surface to the opposite coasts, where they become so-called 'tidal waves' and inundate the shore.

"3. They cause subterranean waters to make their appearance—the waters of springs and those of underground lakes that have soaked in through porous ground and are held by the rocky strata traversed by the earthquake wave.

"The Noahian deluge, then, assumed the character of a seismic inundation, according to our authors, inundations of this kind being the most terrible of all because the oncoming of the abnormal waters is so abundant and so rapid that escape from them is impossible, at least during a certain time.

"This being the case, and it being admitted for purposes of argument that the theater of the cataclysm was exclusively in the low and often marshy plains that border the lower Tigris and Euphrates, the incursion of waters from which Noah and his family saved themselves by means of the Ark is explained by the following considerations:

"In the Chaldean story of the Deluge, as read in the cuneiform inscription, it is said that there overspread the sky dark clouds, from the midst of which Bin or Ramman (god of tempests and rain) rolled out his thunders, while Nebo and Sarru were unchained against each other and the 'Bearers of the Throne' advanced over plain and mountain. The powerful Nergal (god of the plague, according to P. Haupt; of the chase and of war, says G. Smith) unloosed the whirlwinds. Ninip or Adar caused the canals to overflow continually; the Anunnaki (gods of the foundations of the Earth and genii of subterranean waters) vomited forth floods and made the ground tremble. Ramman raised mountainous waves to the sky. Darkness shut out all light.

"We may conclude from this that there were first thick clouds, then a storm, then a tempest. As to the 'Bearers of the Throne,' they were the dust-storms so frequent in Mesopotamia—moving columns of sand reaching to the sky and so seeming to bear up the very throne of the gods, while they finally shut out all sunlight. The overflow of the canals is an allusion to the numerous irrigation channels that led from the Tigris and Euphrates through ancient Chaldea and Assyria. These, which usually would serve to regulate the rivers by carrying off superfluous rain-water, would have their slope reversed continually by the undulations of an earthquake, and so overflow, or a tidal wave would have the same result.

"The intervention of an earthquake is not a mere hypothesis here; it results at once from the combined testimony of the Chal-

dean and Hebrew texts as shall be indicated later, and from the very constitution of the soil of Lower Chaldea.

"In the alluvial plains of great rivers, says Suess, the underground water extends far from the river, at first at the mean level of the current, then getting gradually higher further from the stream. In Chaldea the alluvial soil rests on the living rock of the Tertiary strata. Below the water level, down to this rock, the soil is soft and porous; above, it is hard, forming a kind of cement. When an earthquake-wave traverses such a region, long cracks open in the hard upper stratum and the underground water escapes through them violently, sometimes pure, sometimes muddy; sometimes in great masses, sometimes in isolated spouting jets.

"This, according to our authors, is the explanation both of the Chaldean passage regarding the Anunnaki, cited above, and of the passage in Genesis vii. 11: 'The fountains of the great deep were broken up.'

"Finally they cite numerous instances of inundations accompanied by earthquakes in analogous or identical situations.

"And what happens afterward?

"Everything returns soon to its former condition. The water runs off toward the rivers or enters the cracks again, and in a short time all traces of the flood are gone.

"This is not all. The sea has also its part in the diluvian cataclysm, as we see from the Chaldean passage regarding Ramman, cited above, which evidently refers to a great tidal wave.

"Thus, comparing the Chaldean narrative with the known facts of history, we may form the following account of what took place:

"An earthquake, starting at the bottom of the Erythrean Sea, casts on the Chaldean shore an immense tidal wave which destroys the equilibrium of the atmosphere; there result, first, violent rains in the Babylonian plains, in advance of the wave, and, secondly, a furious cyclone in the Persian Gulf, which pushes farther inland the masses of water accumulated by the wave. The earthquake-wave advancing toward the north beneath the alluvial lands of the river basins causes the canals to overflow, and the subterranean waters to issue from the fissures that it causes in the superficial strata; it pursues its course as far as the mountains that surround Lake Wann, in Armenia, until the cyclone sweeps the borders of the Syrian desert, raising sandstorms that advance eastward like the upbearers of heaven, the throne of the gods, and obscuring the Sun in their course.

"This explanation is in nothing contrary to the Biblical account. The sacred writings affirm in the first place the invasion of the Earth by the waters in a general manner—'the waters of the flood were upon the Earth' (Gen. vii. 10). After this general statement, Genesis enters into details, and speaks first of the rupture of all the 'fountains of the great deep' (verse 11). What were these 'fountains' or 'sources'? It has been sufficiently indicated that they were the sea and the reservoirs of subterranean waters, which were 'broken up' or set in motion by the earthquake-wave.

"The accessory rôle of the rain accords equally with the sacred text; it is only after the rupture of the fountains of the great deep that rain is spoken of.

"Something more—remember the whirlwinds and waterspouts referred to in the Chaldean account as the 'Bearers of the Throne.' According to a theory maintained with as much energy as learning by M. Faye, the origin of whirlwinds is in the heights of the atmosphere; they descend thence to the ground, instead of rising from the ground toward the sky as the opposing theory asserts.*

"If this is so, can we not see the opening of 'the windows of heaven' in the formation at great heights of these whirling masses of air, which stretch little by little toward Earth, and finally touching it produce the destructive effects already mentioned? . . .

"While formally reserving our opinion on the fundamental assumption of the theory that limited the Noachian deluge to a region so small as the lower basin of the Tigris and the Euphrates, we must appreciate its ingenious deductions, which, it seems to us, are invincible, the point of departure being granted.

"But the physical causes indicated, in more extended and generalized form, can be invoked in favor of a theater of action much more vast, comprising the whole basin of the two Biblical rivers.

"To develop this point we should begin by examining and dis-

cussing the historic considerations on which Suess and after him Gerard have relied, to restrain the scene of the Biblical deluge within Chaldeo-Mesopotamia alone, and institute a more careful study of the geological system of the deluge. This would be a task much too long to find place in the present essay."—Translated for the LITERARY DIGEST.

Worshiping the God of Whiskey.—According to the *Evangelisch-Lutherische Kirchen-Zeitung*, Berlin, a horrible caricature of the conversion of Heathens to the Christian faith is being enacted in Cameroon. The old services of the fetishes is prohibited under German rule, but the Dualas have no intention to renounce Heathenism, and have now organized themselves into a body having all the appearance of a religious community. The authorities have been asked to investigate the matter. Our contemporary says: To find a substitute for the worship of idols, the Dualas have organized the Almela "Church." Almela is the god of whiskey, and well known all through the coast districts. To keep up the semblance of a religious community, the Almelas demand that intending members of their congregation pass an "examination" to prove their fitness. The convert is then immersed after the manner of the Baptists. When he arises from the water he is given a glass of liquor, and exhorted to remember that liquor shall henceforth be his god. The "convert" is thus bound to drink plenty of alcohol. Meetings are held on Sundays, and the leader takes a book from which he pretends to read, but in reality discourses on the harmlessness and pleasures of vice. Many people of Bongo have sought admittance into this body. They were told that Almela worship came from Europe, being one of the many religious sects of the Christians.—Translated and Condensed for THE LITERARY DIGEST.

RELIGIOUS NOTES.

ARCHDEACON FARRAR says of General Booth: "His mission was to the neglected, to the wretched, to the destitute, to the residuum, to the submerged tenth. He went to the sheep without a shepherd, who were wandering unattended on the hills of darkness; to the wretches without a home and without a hope; to street arabs and gutter children, the waifs and strays of our horrible slums; to men and women, ruined by drink and crime, living in dens foul as the lairs of wild beasts, for whom there seemed to be no earthly prospect but the cell of the felon, the grave of the suicide, or the dreary misery of the workhouse."

STATISTICS have been gathered east and west showing the proportion of women to men in the churches. It averages about two to one—the proportion that has been recognized for a long time. It will run about that way in heaven. The bass and tenor in the heavenly choir will be weak.—*The Altruistic Review*.

HARD TO RESIST.—Missionary (disconsolately):—"If the favorite wife of the chief could be converted, all would then be easy. But she says she can find nothing attractive in Christian civilization."

Wife (after reflection):—"Show her some fashion plates.—*New York Weekly*.

A LITERAL fulfilment of the prophetic reference to the "oil of joy following mourning; the garment of praise, the spirit of heaviness," is to be found in the curious result of enforced mourning. The young people spend their evenings together at home, become better acquainted; and so weddings are said to invariably follow periods of public mourning.—*The Christian Register*.

THERE is a sort of religious pantheism abroad that esteems all denominations of Christians as alike good and has a preference for none. They are all doing a good work, and the pantheist of this order pats them all on the back, but never troubles himself with inquiry into the tenets of any. He who would as lief be a Methodist as a Baptist, an Episcopalian as a Presbyterian, holds truth with a loose grip and is not likely to prove of much service in any denomination. We should rue the day that brings about Christian unity founded on the indifference that regards the different denominations as peas in one pod. A heap of driftwood gathered by the current of a stream is a poor illustration of the ideal church.—*The New York Observer*.

AT the recent National Congress in India there were gathered at Madras some seven hundred delegates from all parts of India, Afghanistan, Nepaul, and Scinde. They spoke nine different native languages, but the English was the only medium through which the proceedings could be satisfactorily conducted. This is a striking illustration of the wide diffusion of that tongue. English has been so widely spread by England's colonial enterprises that it promises to become the missionary language of the world. Even in Java, where England has no control, the knowledge of English is steadily growing.

A GOOD story is told of a clergyman who undertook duty for a preacher, the chief feature of whose sermons was their tediousness. The visitor apologized one Sunday to the clerk in the vestry, when the service was over, for the shortness of his sermon; a dog had been in his study and torn out some of the pages. "Oh, sir," said the clerk, a gleam of hope illuminating his sad face, "do you think that you could spare our vicar a pup?"

* M. Faye's theory is not generally accepted by meteorologists.—ED. LITERARY DIGEST.

FROM FOREIGN LANDS.

WILL ENGLAND AND RUSSIA LOCK ARMS?

THE Anglo-Russian *rapprochement* is more than mere gossip. Negotiations are being carried on between the two Governments for the settlement of difficulties of long standing. The Bosphorus and the Dardanelles are to be opened for the passage of armed ships of all nations, and Russia will thus obtain free egress for her fleet from the Black Sea. Russia, on the other hand, will make concessions in Afghanistan. The most astonishing bit of news, however, is that the late Czar and Queen Victoria had already paved the way for a better understanding between Russia and Great Britain, while the English Government was supposed to be working against Russia. This strange union is received with rather mixed feeling by the rest of Europe, but the prevailing opinion seems to be that England, in view of her solitary position, hastens to come to terms with her most formidable opponent, in the hope that this may reduce the danger which threatens her maritime supremacy.

"With a confessed Russo-French alliance," says the St. Petersburg correspondent of the *St. James' Gazette*, London, "an open Dardanelles, no allies of our own, Egypt to be held, Asia Minor, if not also Constantinople, to be guaranteed, and no reserve of ships upon the spot, we should, if we kept twenty first-class battle-ships in the Mediterranean, have not one too many. And, having twenty battle-ships there, it would be absolutely necessary for us to have corresponding dockyard accommodation, such as we cannot provide at Malta or Gibraltar. That consideration opens up so long a vista of fresh questions and increased expenditure that we may well halt ere we deliberately accept the alternative of letting Russia have her way with the Dardanelles."

The English papers express an opinion that the Triple Alliance, and Germany in particular, view this Anglo-Russian *entente* with scant favor. The *Indépendance Belge*, Brussels, which generally has a very clear conception of European politics, cannot find any justification for this English view.

"We have paid much attention to the manifestations of public opinion among our neighbors on the other side of the Rhine," says this paper; "the comments on the declarations of Lord Rosebery and Lord Salisbury denote disdain and scepticism rather than inquietude. And, really, ex-Chancellor Caprivi's policy has obtained for Germany absolutely cordial relations with the Northern Power. . . . As for France, why should that country take umbrage if the Anglo-Indian and Turkestan-Russian frontiers are better defined? If *The Standard*, London, feigns a belief that the accord between Russia and England is directed against French colonial expansion, that paper probably draws on its imagination. . . . On the whole, the cause of peace is advanced all over the globe."

Professor Vambéry, of Buda-Pesth, thinks that English prestige will receive a shock by this *entente* between Russia and England. He says in the *Pestler Lloyd*:

"The center of gravity of the British power lies in Asia. Great Britain has no longer any business to attend to on the Continent of Europe, for the times are past when half a dozen German princes sold their soldiers to fight her battles. The Anglo-Russian *entente* has, therefore, nothing to do with the Triple Alliance. England's battles will in future be fought in Asia, and there, too, lies the guarantee of England's greatness. If the *entente* means that England is trying to postpone the evil hour by feigning friendship for Russia, it will be greatly to her disadvantage, as Russia can only profit by the delay."

The *Politische Correspondenz*, Vienna, which is generally credited with voicing the official opinion of European Governments, has an article by its St. Petersburg contributor, in which it is said that—

"Both countries have it in their power materially to injure each other, and the *rapprochement* simply means that both have renounced their intention to do so and will, in future, settle all

differences peacefully. This will not only establish friendly relations between the two countries, but is likely to alleviate the growing antagonism between France and England. Leading men in St. Petersburg have been agreeably impressed by the delicacy of England in holding out her hand to Russia at a moment when the latter country was suffering from a severe blow, and the presence of the Prince and Princess of Wales during this trying time has increased the sentiments of mutual friendship."

The *Novoje Vremya*, St. Petersburg, does not believe that the *rapprochement* will affect the relations between France and Russia. "Her policy of reserving herself a free hand," says the paper, "enables Russia to come to an understanding with Great Britain on Asiatic questions, in return for satisfaction afforded to Russian interests, without in any way modifying the nature of her alliance with France."

A POSSIBLE ALLIANCE OF BUDDHISTIC NATIONS.

EUROPE is getting alarmed at the rapid successes of the Japanese forces in China. The war is a truly national one, the Japanese feel that they are able to defend their independence against all comers, and they refuse to accept the mediation of European Powers in settling their score with China. Speculation is rampant with regard to the question, Where will Japan stop? and more than one authority is inclined to believe that she will assume sole control in Eastern Asia. Dr. Hermann Brunhofer ventures the following prognostication in the *St. Petersburger Zeitung*, St. Petersburg:

"The avowed aim of Japan is the hegemony over Eastern Asia, which means no less than a wish to break with European tutelage. Should China, after all, be victorious, then Japan will simply do her best to regain her strength, and the struggle between the two nations will be renewed at some other time. If Japan wins, she will apply the lessons she has learned from European politicians. She will refuse to make direct conquests, and be satisfied to exercise, here and there, a 'protectorate,' according to the best European precedents, as exhibited in Egypt, Tunis, Madagascar, and other parts. If Japan has not lost her diplomatic finesse, she will give this protectorate the name of an 'alliance,' as in the case of Korea, and thus we may see an Asiatic Triple Alliance suddenly spring into existence, which, assisted by the affinity of race and the bonds of religion, would soon make its influence felt in Farther India."

"The most influential religion in Eastern Asia is Buddhism, the same religion which earned much respect and admiration from the representatives of other beliefs at the Chicago Congress. True, the Japanese Government is not, at present, very enthusiastic on the subject of religion. But that is nothing. In time of war, when it is necessary to use every means to rouse the enthusiasm of the masses, no Government, however irreligious, has ever refused to make use of religious fanaticism. Thus the terrible slayer of his kin, Emperor Constantine the Great, assumed the rôle of Protector of the Christian faith in the Roman Empire; and King Henry VIII., noted for the murder of his wives, became the defender of Protestantism in England. And what has been done in the West could also be accomplished in the East. Attempts to bring about a spiritual union between the Buddhist countries of Asia have been made for years."

The writer here reviews the work of the Theosophical Society in Madras, which, founded by Mme. Blavatsky, and now headed by Colonel Olcott, is well able to exercise some political influence, and the question is only whether Japan will be shrewd enough to make use of this influence for her own purposes. The writer then goes on to say:

"Buddhism is thus about to become a political Power, and the Christian world hardly realizes its danger. The first result of a union between the Buddhist States would be the complete breakdown of the Christian-European missions in Eastern Asia. Everybody knows that these missions are only kept up in China, Japan, and Farther India with the help of European bayonets. Nor is it impossible that the Buddhist Triple Alliance would

claim the right to establish missionaries in Christian countries, if the Christian missionaries are allowed to continue their work in Buddhist countries. Latter-day literature, the philosophy of Schopenhauer, and the writings of Mme. Blavatsky have prepared the West sufficiently to cause the teachings of Buddha to be accepted in many aristocratic circles. The danger to Christianity is so grave, that only a very close study of Buddhism can enable the Western religions to counteract the threatening influence of Buddhist teaching."

Russia, thinks the writer, is more exposed to this danger than any other country; it will therefore be Russia's task to shield Christian Europe. He advises a close study of Buddhism and Brahmanism, as well as Lamaism, and thinks that a knowledge of Hindustani, the language which is of such value to extend Russia's trade relations in Asia, is also the best means to enable her to withstand the attacks of the Asiatic religion.

A CHINO-JAPANESE CONFLICT AND AFTER.

THE *Contemporary Review*, London, publishes an article under the above heading, in which the views of Sir Thomas Wade are set forth in the form of answers to an interviewer's questions. Sir Thomas should know something about the Celestial Empire. He has lived nearly forty years in China, and during twelve years of that period he was accredited as British Minister to the Chinese Government. He believes that the Japanese have pretty good chances now.

"The Japanese," he says, "have acted wisely in striking for the province of Manchuria. So long as China is invaded from the South, the present Manchu Emperor can always retire into his own province with some dignity, as he did in 1860, when the French and English attacked China; if, however, the Japanese can occupy the sacred city of Moukden, respect for the Emperor's authority would receive a dangerous shock. The badly led, undisciplined forces of China stand no chance against Japan's trained battalions; China's troops cannot compare with them, and the army which Gordon created has long since ceased to exist. Japan will not give her adversary the chance to go into training. If Japan is allowed to destroy China, the latter country will be thrown into very much the same condition as during the Mongol and Manchu invasions; she will, in short, present the same phenomena as the Indian peninsula did before England conquered it."

In this is to be found the danger to European peace.

"It is impossible that all the different Powers interested should leave China to anarchy," says Sir Thomas. "It is merely a question who should step in and when. And that is the reason why I say that the Chinese question is rapidly attaining the point of becoming a problem of first-class European importance. For the question threatens to be, Who is to interfere, Russia, England, France, or Germany? Who shall have the governing and drilling of these great masses of hardy, obedient, and most governable people? Even one slice of China, with its millions of potential

soldiers, would give to any one European Power an enormously preponderant weight in the councils of the world. . . .

"The Russians manage to send out men of ability for this work of expansion, and as a race they have a social charm and a faculty of adaptation which give them a peculiar power. We know some of their weaknesses. On the other hand, they have an immense capacity for drilling and organizing, and this applied to the Chinese must produce results that would astonish the world. The



Uncle Sam and Mr. Jap sing "Comrades" in chorus and remark to poor Mr. China, "You're not civilized, John, get off the earth."

—The Evening World, New York.

Japanese need not be so confident that they are going to have the whole thing their own way. Should they win, and the game is as yet by no means over in their contest with China, they will still have Russia to deal with—Russia conterminous with Chinese territory for, say, four thousand miles."

Sir Thomas agrees with the late German Ambassador to China, M. v. Brandt, in his opinion that China's military weakness is due to traditional contempt for the military profession. They are, indeed, a proud race, but their pride is merely one of the thousand and one contradictions that you find in that strange country.

"Just as the Chinese are both the most cultured and the most ignorant of races, just as their civilization is the oldest and yet the least developed, so the Chinese are both the least humble and the least military of all the races in the world. It is an entire mistake to construe their pride as the pride of the soldier and the adventurer. It is purely and simply the pride of the don scholastic. . . . One might almost say she is too proud to be aggressive. Scholastic culture is the grand desideratum in China, and, by a natural sequence of ideas, the trade of the soldier is considered as vile and unworthy. The consequence is, as Mr. Curzon points out in his able book, that the officers of her army are chosen from the remnants left over from the lettered service. This is why the Chinese army is, in general, so shockingly led."

Foreigners are not in danger, thinks Sir Thomas, although it might be well to call in some of the missionaries from the most distant stations. It is, however, quite possible that the Japanese admirals may be forced to bombard some of the treaty ports. Sir Thomas Wade reveals his diplomatic training by the cautious way in which he admits that Great Britain may consider it necessary to intervene. He expects Asiatic politics to develop as follows:

"Japan will, if victorious, I suppose, attempt to organize Korea as part of her dominions. She may even endeavor to annex part of China. It matters little at what point she stops. At one moment or another in this development of events Russia must step in, and Japan will begin to discover the true nature of the part that she has played. Whether she wins or loses, I think it quite certain that Japan in the end will have to pay the piper. If she loses, she will have to pay to China; if she wins, Russia. So much for the first step. The intervention of Russia on the north, I cannot but assume, would be quickly followed by the intervention of France on the south. . . .

"Left to themselves, it is possible that Russia and France might be minded to partition China. But it is not in the slightest degree probable that they will be left to themselves. Germany, one would think, could hardly allow either France or Russia to gain such an enormous accession of strength, without a word in the matter. Nor could America be indifferent. Her interests in the Pacific have been steadily increasing of late years. She cannot ignore the Pacific, and, with all her reality or affection of non-interference in outside affairs, she could scarcely stand idly by while changes so vast were taking place on the other side of the great ocean. It is whispered that her sympathies incline her to Japan. And then, when all other Powers were dragged in, is it not possible that we *nolens volens* might bring up the rear? . . . For whichever among the great Powers has the Chinese to serve him is in a fair way to devour all the rest."

Sir Thomas cannot help remarking that, "on the whole," Confucian principle is good principle, but then:

"*Video meliora proboque—deteriora sequor*, is as true of a Chinese as it is of a European. The mandarin is full of the loftiest precepts, and yet he embezzles and takes bribes for his judicial decisions, now even as in the days of Confucius. He jobs too. The habit of helping friends and relatives to offices in the State is incurably ingrained in the Chinese nature. The custom of advancing 'men of one's own year,' or college-friends, or their friends, has the tradition of centuries behind it. None of these things are according to Confucius. But may I ask whether all our actions are in harmony with the Sermon on the Mount or the Ten Commandments? of which law, be it remembered, they have heard little until recently. Through ages of darkness they have been a law unto themselves. Speaking for myself, I have often wondered that they are no worse."

EMPEROR WILLIAM AND LITERARY FREE-LANCES.

HERE are in Germany publications which continually court a libel suit. Readers are equally human in Germany as elsewhere, and an article for which the editor has suffered punishment is read with avidity by people who would otherwise show little interest in it. Nor are the consequences of a libel suit so very serious to the existence of a paper. The fine, if a fine is imposed, is generally a light one, and most of the papers which publish insulting articles keep on hand a *Sitz-Redakteur*, a person whose name graces the columns as that of the responsible editor, but who is often only a messenger. The horrors of imprisonment for offenses of the kind mentioned are not very great—the prisoner is allowed to provide his own food and can make his cell pretty comfortable. These are the reasons why many publications attack prominent men. The persons attacked are not much hurt, if their reputation is otherwise established; the public prosecutor can prove his zeal by hauling the editor before the court, the publisher has a good sale, the public is amused, and the writer gains the notoriety he craves, while little or no harm is done. That famous journalistic free-lance, Maximilian Harden, compares William II. with Charles I. of England. He writes in his paper, the *Zukunft*, Berlin, as follows:

"Charles's strongly developed belief that he was responsible to God alone had made him very similar to the picture which Samuel drew for the Israelites when they demanded a king, and he thought it time to venture the invention of a new mode of governing, a cross between autocratic rule and constitutionalism. The Britons of the Seventeenth Century would probably have refused to tolerate a King who, without further ado, took their men-servants and maid-servants, their finest sons and the pick of their flocks, but Charles found the Constitution irksome, he broke with the custom to choose his advisers among the Privy Council, and ruled with the help of a few noblemen who were his boon companions. He did not rule as autocrat; he had advisers, but they were irresponsible, and when the people became dissatisfied, he grandly asked them to have confidence in him; he demanded theological faith, the faith that springs from servile loyalty. But when the hopes of the people were not realized, Charles Stuart had to pay for his mistake with his head."

Harden then proceeds to apply his sketch of Charles the First to the present German Emperor:

"That the German people should trust the Emperor who appoints and dismisses the highest officials as often as he pleases and without consulting the nation, is too much of a good thing, and is likely to lead to the same bad ending as that which terminated the rule of Charles Stuart."

Such articles are generally a welcome subject for prosecution, and Mr. Harden has often appeared in court. It appears, nevertheless, that the Government officials intend to leave him severely alone this time. The Emperor himself is much opposed to libel suits; he would rather follow the lead of Frederick the Great, who, finding a caricature of himself nailed somewhat high on a gate, ordered his adjutant to hang it lower so that the people could better contemplate it. The *Post*, Zurich, compares the Emperor with his predecessor, Frederick William IV., who died insane. The paper draws its conclusions from a history of this King by Professor Freitschke, who is at present engaged in historical researches in Berlin:

"Freitschke describes how the King managed to raise high hopes in his personal abilities. Every one who had made himself a name in art or science flocked to his court. He was the greatest of all those genial and ingenious amateurs of Germany's many-sided culture. His restless spirit endeavored to grasp everything, but he could not create anything, and he was most barren in his political life. . . . He had a queer way of placing remarkable men in wrong positions. The same weakness characterizes the present *régime*. The Emperor will not part with any of his power, yet he has not the strength to follow up his own aims, and takes refuge in a frequent change of his ministerial

personnel. It is useless to go into prophecies—the Prussian-German politics can never be counted upon—but it is very likely that a Liberal foreign policy will be combined with a steady reaction in Home politics."

The Post thinks the similarity between the two sovereigns is very striking:

"William II.'s reign had not lasted long ere this remarkable similarity to his grand-uncle was noticed and pointed out by able men. He has the same artistic tastes, the same romantic character, the same belief in his destiny. Both monarchs strive to be just, but reverses produce a fear which leads to a want of clear discernment in political matters. Frederick William IV. never had a very clear political programme, and this led him to change his advisers very frequently, putting able men in places where they uselessly frittered away the strength which should have been of service to the country."

WHY RUSSIAN EMIGRANTS ARE HOMESICK.

TO the average reader it must appear extremely curious that the Russian Jews should flock in great numbers to the Imperial Russian Consulate in New York to take the oath of allegiance to the new Czar. We are accustomed to regard Russia as one of the least desirable countries to live in, and believe that the emigrants from that part of the world think of their former homes only with horror. Apparently this is not the case. A writer in the *Staats-Zeitung*, New York, endeavors to explain, in a lengthy article, why the inhabitants of New York's "Little Jerusalem" are anxious to return to the Land of the Bears. We take the following from his argument:

"This anxiety of the Russian Jews to strengthen the loosened bonds between themselves and their former country is due to the hope that Nicholas II. will inaugurate an era of liberal government. The emigration *en masse* to New York of the Russian Jews, which reached its highest point in 1892, is not, like the similar movement about ten years ago, a voluntary one and does not find its impulse in the idea that the Hebrew will go to a second Palestine by removing to the Land of Dollars. This emigration was due only to the persecution to which the Jews were subjected during the reign of Alexander III. During the lifetime of Alexander II. their lot was not at all unbearable. This Czar allowed them to settle where they pleased, and within ten years they had become fairly prosperous. In the cities they made their living as skilled workmen and as merchants; in the country they were pedlers, went into the milk-trade and the transportation business. Alexander III. forced them back into ghettos, locations set apart for their residence, robbed them of their means of subsistence, and they became as abjectly poor as before.

"But the lot of the Russian Jews during the reign of Alexander was much better than what they experience here. A walk through the streets of 'Little Jerusalem,' must convince the observer that the emigrant who escaped the ghetto has hardly exchanged it for something better. He has exchanged the hut of the ghetto for a tenement-house, which looks well enough on the outside, but proves to be much worse than the hut. The dirtiness of the inhabitants is, probably, the same there as here, but one can at least breathe in the Russian barrack; it is situated, not in a sea of houses, but in a little village, surrounded by fields and gardens. But the comparison should not end here, for, with regard to lodgings, the Russian-Polish Jew is hardly more pretentious than a nomadic gipsy. The other conditions of life under which we find the emigrant are also such that they may stand a comparison with his existence in the ghetto, but not with his life while he had a right to live where he pleased in Russia. The recent strike of the cloakmakers has revealed the present condition of the Jewish laborer. Whoever has seen the hungry, scantily clad women and children, as they come to ask food of the relief committee, will understand that they sigh for the time when Russia was a free country to them, where they knew nothing of labor organizations or strikes.

"In Russia the Jews have kept away from labor organizations. The Jew wanted to preserve his independence, in this matter as well as in others. The cloakmaker who here is forced to join an

organization worked for his own reckoning in Russia, or, if he was forced to work for a 'boss,' he could fix his own price. As carters, small tenant-farmers, and innkeepers, the Jews were also very little inclined to join labor organizations, and thus they escaped the misery of strikes.

"We will be told that this very want of organization caused a lower rate of wages in the realm of the Czar, but during the time when they could choose their domicile they were certainly better off than they are to-day in the Land of Dollars. In Russia the head of the family could defend them from want; here even the half-grown children must be harnessed to enable the family to lead a hand-to-mouth existence. The dissatisfaction of the Jews with their life here is amply proved by the fact that a comparatively large number have become Socialists. While the Israelites in Russia keep strictly away from such movements, they seem to become willing tools for the revolutionary propaganda here—which is hardly a sign of well being in a person who formerly kept Socialism at a distance! Nicholas II. has given indications that he favors liberal views; the numerous Jews who have sworn fealty to him undoubtedly wish to exchange the Land of Dollars for that of the Bear, if the Czar will grant them freedom to choose their domicile."

THE ARMENIAN MASSACRES.

MUCH ink is spilled to express the indignation of civilized nations at the alleged Armenian massacres. It seems certain that much blood has been spilled in Asia Minor, but the cause of it all is still a mystery. The following account, which we take from the *Politische Correspondenz*, Vienna, is perhaps the most authentic, as the paper is generally well informed on Turkish affairs. That paper says:

"One of the most unruly people in the Ottoman Empire are the Kurds, who inhabit the country around the sources of the Tigris and the Wann lakes. The Kurds have never been altogether conquered, although occasional raids against individual tribes served to hold them in a kind of subjection. The chiefs are entirely independent of each other, war against each other, occasionally refuse to pay taxes and tribute to the Turkish Government, and plunder the Armenian Lowlands. During the last few years these plundering expeditions have become more frequent than ever, and the Armenians, unable to obtain protection from the Government, formed armed bands and retaliated, and it appears that they committed some cruelties in a Mohammedan village. Leki Pasha, the commander of the Fourth Turkish Army Corps, was sent to restore order, and as the Armenians would not lay down their arms, he attacked them and killed over 6,000, including many women and children."

The Standard, London, accuses the Turkish commander of undue partiality for the Mohammedan Kurds; and the Armenians, in this country as well as in Europe, ask the help of the Christian Powers to obtain their independence, in order to be able to deal with their Kurdish tormentors without the fear of Turkish interference. According to some Continental papers, the British Consul at Bitlis promised his help. But the German Press is just now suffering from an attack of Anglophobia, and its assertions must be taken with a grain of salt. *The Frankfurter Zeitung*, Frankfort, says:

"The Porte gives a very different account of the affair. The Governor of Bitlis openly accuses the British Consul at Wann of having done his best to rouse the Armenians against the authorities. His story is that bands of Armenian robbers, armed with imported rifles, joined some tribes of Kurds who themselves were in open rebellion against the Turkish Government. These robbers burned several Mohammedan villages, and would have murdered the inhabitants, had not the Turkish troops stationed in the neighborhood come to their assistance. The Kurds, says the Turkish Government, did not plunder the Armenians. The latter drove their cattle into the mountains and hid their valuables long before the outbreak of the trouble. The Armenian women seen among the Kurdish brigands had not been abducted, but are only accompanying their husbands. The number of slain is much overrated, although the Turks admit that 2,000 rebels have lost their lives."

Is Li Hung Chang a Traitor?—Shanghai advices set forth that the Viceroy of Petchili, Li Hung Chang, has not only been deprived of his command and honors, but is also accused of high treason. He is said to have conspired with Prince Kung, the uncle of the Emperor, and Wu, the late Taotai of Port Arthur. These three high officials are said to have sold secrets of state to the Japanese. That the Chinese should have hit upon the just-named liberal-minded officials as scapegoats is quite possible. The truth of the accusations contained in the memorial presented to the Emperor must nevertheless be doubted, and it is also very doubtful that Li Hung Chang will allow himself to be arrested. The special correspondent of the *Kreuz Zeitung*, Berlin, thinks Li's troops are faithful to him, and will resist his arrest, and there are no forces that could be sent against him, nor are there any generals of ability to oppose him.

"There is no longer any doubt," continues the writer, "that his own specially trained troops never yet left Tien-Tsin, and cannot, therefore, be said to have been annihilated by the Japanese in Korea. He either sulks because he has been slighted by the Emperor, and thus follows the example of Achilles, or he has some dark designs against his Imperial master. It is well known that he is in league with Prince Kung, the uncle of the Emperor who lately rose to power. Perhaps Li Hung Chang means to bring about a revolution to raise Kung to the throne. The Empress-Mother has openly declared for Prince Kung and Li Hung Chang, and heads the revolutionary party at Court. It seems also as if Li were in secret communication with Count Ito, the Japanese Premier, who was his friend for many years. At any rate, the gray-headed Viceroy has certainly failed to oppose the Japanese in anything like an energetic manner, and does not appear to think, even now, that the time for action has come. The Emperor is perfectly powerless to command obedience from Li, who is surrounded by a strong army in Tien-Tsin, which is paid by him and will not obey any one else. This army, no doubt, will turn the scale, whether it is employed against the Japanese or led against the possible rebels of China."

FOREIGN NOTES.

IT is customary for the Speaker of the German Reichstag to propose cheers for the Emperor, at the opening of a session of that body. The Socialist members of the House usually absent themselves upon this occasion. But during the opening of the first session in the new Reichstag building at Berlin, they attended, and refused to rise when the cheers were called for. The other members of the House lost their self-possession at this insult, and a general row ensued. The House evidently held the same opinion as the Emperor, who said that he considered the conduct of the Socialists as intended to insult the Reichstag rather than the Sovereign, as the Reichstag, by giving these cheers, proves that it is in favor of the monarchy.

The Jewish Chronicle, London, brings the news that the Rothschilds will not assist in placing the new Russian loans unless the Jews receive better treatment in Russia. The hope of improvement in the lot of their fellow-Hebrews in the realm of the Czar, has also influenced the German Jews, and the Press, influenced by them, prints the most rosy accounts of the state of Russia's finances.

GREAT rejoicings followed in Hungary upon the news that the Emperor had signed the laws regarding civil marriage which were passed in the Hungarian Parliament in the face of much opposition from the Clerical element. It is confidently expected that Premier Wekerle will also succeed in securing freedom of religion to the Jews, as the Emperor has unbounded faith in the Liberal Ministry.

THE fall of Port Arthur, China's most important stronghold, must convince the most skeptical that the Japanese are not only well-led, but also possesses much dash and pluck. Whatever may be said of other engagements, at the battle of Port Arthur they were opposed by fairly good troops. Japan is not likely to be interfered with by the Powers. Great Britain is too practical to engage against such a formidable enemy, and the other Powers are not sufficiently interested to assist in rescuing England's best customer from the Japanese.

A DISCUSSION of special interest to Americans is at present going on in the German Parliament—the debates on the American Tariff. The German beet-growers declare that the United States Government unjustly favors the importation of sugar from other countries than Germany, and demand that their Government should retaliate by putting a duty upon American cereals. This would undoubtedly lead to a severe tariff war between the two countries, during which other nations alone could profit, as the volume of trade in the United States and Germany is very large. The German Government is, therefore, little inclined to adopt reprisals, and urges the Parliament to allow the United States Congress to settle the difficulty.

MISCELLANEOUS.

CHRISTMAS IN THE SOUTH LONG AGO.

CHRISTMAS is doubtless still celebrated by both whites and blacks in the South with as much spirit and pleasure as it ever was, but there is always something peculiarly interesting in reminiscence descriptive of the holiday times of the South in old slave-days. Much spurious stuff has passed in print for reminiscence of those bygone scenes, and it is pleasure to find so dependable and delightful an author as John Williamson Palmer writing on that line. Dr. Palmer is himself a Marylander of the old school and of aristocratic lineage. His present article appears in the Christmas number of *The Century*, and is entitled "Old Maryland Homes and Ways." We quote the part relating to Christmas festivities:

"The time-honored usage of the Church and the traditions of English rural life outweighed the later suggestions of piety or patriotism. Thanksgiving Day was unknown, and the Fourth of July was but lightly regarded; but Easter and Whitsuntide were fondly greeted, especially by the negro, to whose recreation and entertainment they were expressly devoted. Those were the only dates in the calendar the fieldhand cared to know or to remember, except that most glorious of all the inventions of Church or society, the Christmas holidays. For these he waited the whole year round in faith and hope; for these he prayed for the coming of the harvest, which brought with it those two golden days when the cradler, the binder, and the carrier—man, woman, and boy—were paid in beautiful money; for these he cultivated broomcorn in his little garden-patch, made brooms, braided wheat-straw, and wove it into hats, trapped the otter, the fox, or the musk-rat, and saved the 'net proceeds' from the sale of all these at the cross-roads store, with the foregone conclusion that every penny must be spent to make a rousing Christmas in the quarter. With extraordinary diligence and cheerfulness, he prepared the stacks of Christmas firing; with unerring judgment, he selected the burly backlog, and solemnly soaked it in the creek, that in the great chimney-place of the dining-room it might show a brave front of glowing coals to the merry company, while its back remained unscorched for a week at least—that rapture-laden sennight of a slave's appointed holiday which no grudging overseer might gainsay.

"At midnight on Christmas eve there was much noisy jubilation, with fusillade of shotguns, in fields and roads; but the day itself was kept at home, with general jollification of the family, to which the negroes were admitted. Those of the old family servants who might be absent for any reason came (long distances, perhaps) to wish their masters and mistresses a merry Christmas, and to receive in the kitchen their gifts of clothing or money, as well as the black-glazed jug of rum or gin for their own merrymakings in the quarter, and the mug of eggnog or apple-toddy for themselves.

"Every evening of the happy week that followed, those rollicking darkies made the round of the plantations, dancing, and singing the corn-songs among the cabins and around the great house.

"Hooray, hooray, ho!
Round de corn, Sally!
Hooray for all de lubly ladies;
Round de corn, Sally!
Dere's Master Howard lub Miss Betty;
Round de corn, Sally!
I tell you what, she's mighty pretty;
Round de corn, Sally!
And den dey means to lib so lordly;
Round de corn, Sally!
Up at de manor-house at Audley;
Round de corn, Sally!
Dere's Master Brent, he lub Miss Susan;
Round de corn, Sally!
He 'clar' she is de pick and choosin';
Round de corn, Sally!
And when dey gains de married station;
Round de corn, Sally!
He take her to de old plantation;
Round de corn, Sally!"

"When Remus, Saul, and Cæsar, with Dinah, Phyllis, and Chloe, made the circuit of the quarters at Christmas-tide, they were regaled with various succulent viands—chine and spare-rib,

sausage and crackling, savory souvenirs of the fine art of hog-killing; besides coon and corn pone, 'possum fat and hominy, all consecrated to their comfort and cheer, with lusty drafts of cider. Gingerbread and boiled chestnuts were dispensed to the dusky company, and there was much cracking of walnuts and roasting of apples. Then the cabin floor was cleared for the dance—jig and breakdown, pigeon-wing and juba, the latter a characteristic survival of the aboriginal barbarism, delivered with vigorous shouts and cries and shuffling of feet to a rhythmic accompaniment of hand-clapping and patting of knees, in melodious deference to the jiggings of a fiddle by the light of flaming pine-knots.

"' Juba up and juba down,
Juba all aroun' de town;
Sift de meal, and gimme de husk;
Bake de cake, and gimme de crus';
Fry de pork, and gimme de skin;
Ax me when I'm comin' ag'in;
Juba! hi, juba!"

"' Juba in and juba out,
Juba, juba, all about;
Dinah, stir de 'possum fat;
Can't you hear de juba pat?
Juba!"

"Meanwhile, in the great ballroom of the manor-house the people of quality, 'personages of the politest gentility,' are demurely gliding and teetering in the stately minuet, with much courtly curvetting and coquettish cajolery of dimpled shoulders and bridling of pert and pretty necks, while in the ample kitchen of the farmhouse romping lads and bouncing Bonny-bells are atoning for what they lack of the courtly and the debonair by superior agility and heartiness in the 'Virginia Reel,' where gentle jokes and chaste kisses are free."

ONE MORAL STANDARD FOR BOTH SEXES.

WHAT we must do is to "unite in demanding a single standard of morals, and that standard must be the one which man demands of woman." Such is the dictum of B. O. Flower, who is contributing to *The Arena*, of which he is editor, a series of articles under the title of "Wellsprings of Immorality," in which he forcefully discusses the subject of female prostitution. He holds that the crime of illicit intercourse can only be crushed out by a properly adjusted relation of the sexes, and that woman can never escape the curse of the crime until she demands of man the purity that he requires in her. We quote some of Mr. Flower's fervent arguments:

"We enshrine the Magdalene in art and give her a place in gorgeous windows of temples dedicated to Him whose greatest compassion was shown toward those to whom Christian society shows the least mercy. Nowhere is the absolute brutality of society so painfully apparent as in the treatment of women who have stepped aside from the paths of virtue. Nowhere is the revolting moral obliquity of society so manifest as in the treatment of the fallen man who corrupts virginity. This problem is one of the most stupendous and tragic of our day, and until the conscience of men and women shall be quickened so that justice shall supplant the base and brutal treatment which characterizes the methods of the slothful and pharisaical conventionalism of the present, civilization will make no pronounced upward stride, because the saving love necessary is the leverage upon which society now waits.

"The lust for gold and the lust of the flesh are the two well-springs of present-day misery, degradation, and crime, and no permanent good can be brought about until we frankly and fearlessly recognize these evils in their enormity, with the grim determination which nerves the surgeon who beholds an eating cancer and resolves to save the patient by laying bare the affected parts and applying the knife. . . .

"Nowhere else is so great injustice tolerated by society as in the domain of the social evil. He who loves womanhood and who gives the generation of to-morrow a second thought will be impressed with the importance of bravely and urgently insisting that the maiden caught in the meshes of designing lust or enslaved by unjust social conditions, and dragged to ruin, shall be recognized as a victim to be won back to virtue by that broad, sympathetic love which, more than aught else, possesses the redemp-

tive potentiality, that love which closes the door on the past and says, 'Neither do I condemn thee; go, and sin no more,' and which, while saving the victim, unmasks the moral leper who pollutes innocence and then flings it forth as a withered flower, but who while so doing poses as a pillar of society, who builds churches and endows colleges. The only way to accomplish this object is bravely to agitate the question and show the essential injustice and the debauching effect of the double standard of morals."

Mr. Flower cites Elbridge T. Gerry for authority that there are 40,000 prostitutes in New York City alone, and he quotes Dr. De Costa as saying that "for every fallen woman there are five fallen men." Upon which he comments as follows:

"These figures cannot, of course, be accurately ascertained, but if we include the commonwealth of men who do not openly patronize houses of ill fame but who are holding illicit relations with women other than their wives, the estimate is doubtless conservative. However, to be ultra-conservative, let us cut these figures in half. The result is, one hundred thousand impure men in New York City! How many of these men are fathers, or will become husbands within five years? Surely a third would be a small estimate. We will place it at thirty thousand. Thirty thousand men in one city from whose souls that which is finest and most divine has taken flight! Thirty thousand men, a large proportion of whom are giving to the civilization of to-morrow a generation poisoned with the virus of triumphant animalism."

In conclusion Mr. Flower says:

"And how serious appears this problem when we remember that in our own republic there are thousands of girls who a few years ago were prattling, innocent little ones, who to-day are virtuous, but who next year will be ruined, and in fifteen years, if they live so long, will have become bloated, poisoned, and debauched wrecks, loathing themselves and being loathed even by the denizen of the social cellar. Every year the tribute of thousands of maidens is paid to masculine lust, while the moral sentiment of the nation sleeps, and parents persist in keeping their daughters in ignorance of that knowledge which would prove their shield in the hour of peril."

ANIMALS' BEDS.

MANY domestic animals are decidedly "faddy" about their beds, and while no one of any species observes a strictly uniform mode of going to rest, there is generally manifested a predilection for some particular spot and for certain surroundings. A writer in *The Spectator*, London, gives his experience and opinions as follows:

"We have seen a little dachshund which would not go to her basket until the blanket had been held to the hall-stove. This she required to be done in Summer as well as Winter, though the stove was not lighted. A spaniel, kept in a stable, used always to leave its kennel to sleep with the horse. Hounds make a joint bed on the bench after a long run, lying back to back, and so supporting one another. But sporting dogs should have proper beds made like shallow boxes with sloping sides. They are far more rested in the morning than if simply left to lie on straw. This was noted by a clever old Devonshire clergyman, a great sportsman, who observed that his best retrieving-s spaniel used always to get into an empty wheelbarrow to sleep when tired. The dog's bed should be a rough reproduction of the barrow, without the wheel. . . . The poet Cowper's cat, the 'Pensive Selima,' was not alone in her taste for making a bed in such odd places as watering-pots and open drawers. Cats are the most obstinately capricious, in their fancies about their beds, of any domestic creature. They will follow a particular rug or shawl from room to room, if it be removed, in order to sleep on it, or insist on the use of one chair, until they get their way, and then for some reason take a fancy to another. The cleanliest of all animals, anything newly washed or very fresh and bright, strikes them as just the thing for a bed. A nicely aired newspaper lying on the floor or in a chair, or linen fresh from the wash, is almost irresistible. Outdoor cats seek a warm as well as a tidy bed. The writer was once much surprised, when passing through a large shipbuilding yard, to see a cat fast asleep, lying, it

seemed, on a muddy path. But the spot which the cat had selected for its couch was one at which a hot steampipe passed under the road, and the mud was there baked into a warm, dry cake, which made not only a clean but an artificially heated sleeping-place. But the oddest taste in beds developed by a cat was that entertained by a very highly bred gray Angora, which was justly petted and admired by the family in which it lived. For some months it would only sleep in or upon a hat, if such could be found, ladies' hats being preferred. If it could discover one with the inside uppermost, it would lie inside it. If not, such was its love for this form of couch it would curl itself round the brim, and with its long furry tail and pliant body made a fine Winter trimming to a Summer hat. By some accident, a drawer in which all the 'Summer' hats had been disposed for the Winter was left open for some days, after which it was discovered that all the hats had been tried in turn, the cat having finally selected one adorned with white laburnum flowers, which never recovered from the 'ironing' to which it had been subjected. Even the animals of the farm have certain preferences in their sleeping arrangements. Cattle and sheep, when left out to 'lie rough,' always sleep under trees to avoid the dew; and sheep, if there is no such cover available, lie on the highest, and consequently the dryest, ground. Horses seem less particular, though they have curious fancies as to their bed-litter in stables. It would be interesting to know what is the horse's point of view as to the substitution of 'moss-litter' for straw, which the rise in the price of the latter has brought into such general use. But perhaps the hardier animals are right. A rise in the 'standard of comfort' is not an unmixed blessing even to their owners."

ITINERATING IN CHINA.

THE ignorance, superstition, and degradation of the Chinese is the subject of a letter to *The Christian Advocate*, Nashville, by Bishop Galloway, who has very recently traveled in China. We extract a part of his letter:

"In Sung-Kiang is the tomb of Ward, the American filibuster who figured in Walker's Nicaragua Expedition, and afterward came to China. He offered his services to the Government in the Tai-Ping rebellion, raised an army, and led it victoriously in every contest. To him probably is due the credit of organizing the so-called 'all-victorious' army which General Gordon afterward commanded, and made quick work of the rebellion. He held Sung-Kiang against the rebels and the adjacent country, but at the close of a battle was struck by a spent ball and killed. By order of the Government, a memorial temple was built in his honor, behind which he sleeps in an unmarked mound. He was canonized according to heathen rites, and the people commanded to worship his spirit. We visited the temple, and found an old soothsayer in charge plying his trade and making merchandise out of the superstitious and afflicted. . . .

"In another temple was a large picture of some horrible, dragon-looking animal, desperately trying to devour the Sun. This picture, by Government order, is in the houses of all Chinese officials as a warning against avarice. But, from universal report, the lesson is lost and the warning unheeded. Officials are said to be monsters of iniquity—grasping without exception and corrupt without limitation. Every contract is a job, and almost every act a judicial crime. On this account there is universal and utter lack of confidence in all Government officers. No man can hold office in his native province, and the term of service is limited to three years. But in this time fortunes are stolen, and a poor mandarin becomes a sort of fabulous Croesus. This occasions the widespread discontent in China, and threatens her overthrow far more than the navy and army of Japan. At any moment rebellions may break out which will make the canals of China run red with the blood of her sons.

"Outside the walls of Sung-Kiang is a temple, in one apartment of which is a realistic representation of the *Buddhist hell*. We went to see it, and tried to ascertain the significance of its horrible details. At the entrance of the infernal regions stood a forbidding figure, with a satanic grin on his face, and a bundle of imitation silver money in his hand. Inside were the various kinds of torture to which the pitiless victims were subjected. Some were falling from an immense arch, around which serpents were coiled; others were bound to a stake, and headsman were

wielding the bloody ax; others, with heads down, were being sawed asunder; others, in a rice mortar, were being pounded to jelly; and still others, in an immense furnace, were burning, while the grim stoker was stirring up the fire to make it seven times hotter. On one side the iron gate stood slightly ajar, and some had escaped. They stood outside, and were taking on the skins of dogs, hogs, foxes, etc. This illustrated the doctrine of the transmigration of souls. As we studied the horrible picture. I said surely this has little hold upon the faith and fears of the Chinese. If they believed its doctrine their lives would be changed. The fact is, the masses have no religion. They care little for their temples, and have no worship worthy the name."

A NOBLE MOTHER OF ILLUSTRIOS SONS.

THE frontispiece of *The Evangelist*, New York, December, presents a beautiful and touching portrait which we, by kind permission, reproduce. The sweet and venerable features here delineated were those of Mrs. Field, the mother of Cyrus W., David Dudley, Henry M., and Stephen J. Field. Rarely has it been the honor of a mother to give to the world such a galaxy of sons, and it is to their honor that each has attributed

to her exalted nature the chief cause of his success and eminence in life. Dr. John Todd recently wrote, in his book of "Sketches," of this "Uncommon Mother" as follows:

"At the gateway of one of our beautiful rural cemeteries, a large funeral was just entering, as our attention was called to a very remarkable sight. The bier was resting on the shoulders of four tall, noble-looking men in the prime of life. One of these bearers was a judge on the bench of the Supreme Court of the nation. A second

was one of the most eminent and accomplished lawyers of whom this country or any other can boast. A third was a very distinguished divine, whose pen is a great power. And the fourth was the President of the Senate of this State [Massachusetts. He died a few years after]. And these remarkable men were all brothers. [Another, who is not here mentioned, the projector of the Atlantic Telegraph, was also present in this sad procession and assisted in carrying his mother's bier.] They stood strong in life, but were bowed and silent and solemn, as if the bier was too heavy for their strength. Very slowly and carefully they trod, as if the sleeper should not feel the motion.

"And who was on the bier, so carefully and tenderly borne? It was their own mother. Never did I see a grief more reverent or respect more profound. It seemed to me that the mother's cold heart must throb in her coffin . . .

"That body had been inhabited by one of the sweetest, most cheerful and brilliant minds that ever inhabited an earthly tabernacle. What that lovely woman had done to make her husband's ministry useful and profitable; what she had done to make these distinguished men what they are, who can tell? Or what she had done in training daughters that are ornaments to their sex? [The two daughters died more than thirty years ago: one of them was the mother of Mr. Justice Brewer, now sitting beside his uncle on the Bench of the Supreme Court of the United States.] What has not a mother accomplished who has given such an influence to the world? I never see one of these sons but my thoughts go back to the home of their childhood; and I can hardly keep my eyes from filling with tears as I think of that mother."



THE GOOD ANGEL OF THE HOUSEHOLD.

Kipling's Fresh-Air Fund.—"It has become the fashion of literary paragraphers to print whatever stories of a disagreeable nature concerning Rudyard Kipling they can hear or find," says Edward W. Bok in the *The Philadelphia Times*. "Incidents showing the other side of the man—the true side, in fact—are rare. But that this wonderful author is not quite the literary barbarian which he is so generally made out to be finds but stronger evidence in a little story which I heard quite recently.

"Not long ago an ambitious young writer composed his first story. He was rather skeptical of its merit and being a great reader and admirer of Kipling's work, determined to send his literary first-born to Kipling for criticism. His friends tried to dissuade him from the idea telling him that he would never see his story again. But his faith in his favorite author was strong, and the story went to Kipling. A week passed by, and finally nearly a month had elapsed. The young writer suffered keenly from the ridicule of his friends in the mean time, and, truth to tell, his faith began to waver. During the fifth week, however, a letter came postmarked 'Brattleboro Vermont' and the young writer opened it with feverish haste.

"There was his manuscript, true enough, but scarcely could he recognize it. Kipling had evidently put days of work upon it, making corrections, suggestions, and interlineations until the story contained more of Kipling than of its original author. With the manuscript came a letter, in which Kipling said that he was not 'in the habit of doing this sort of thing, because it took so much time.' But in this case he saw a good chance to make five dollars for a particular fresh-air fund in which he was interested, and if Mr. — thought the work he had put on this manuscript was worth that sum, he would be glad to receive it for his fund, and would send a receipted bill! The five dollars were sent!"

Sarah Grand's Views of Marriage.—The author of "The Heavenly Twins" has been interviewed by a writer for *The Woman at Home*, to whom she spoke as follows concerning married life: "I think that a noble purity ought to mark all good fiction, no matter with what subjects it may have to deal. The purity of marriage was the ideal I set before myself in writing the 'Heavenly Twins,' for which, by the way, I have had to suffer considerably, for since then any objectionable book that may deal, directly or indirectly, with the marriage question has been, on its appearance, attributed to me or to my influence, however heartily I may disapprove of them. I find that the public is very indiscriminating in these things. I have always maintained that the perfect life is married life, and have not the faintest sympathy with those women, advanced or otherwise, who make light of wedded happiness. In some respects my views of marriage might be considered even old-fashioned, for I would do nothing to facilitate divorce, except to equalize the law for both sexes. I think the woman has everything to lose by any slackening of the marriage bond. Society would sink into a more terrible state than we can easily imagine if the old 'handfasting' of the Borders—under which a Julian Avenel could take to himself a wife for a year and a day—were in a more or less modified form to become a common practice. My theory of the relations of the sexes is not to lower the woman, but to raise the man."

"Grass-Widow."—The phrase "grass-widow," or rather "grace-widow," for the first has no foundation in fact, and is simply a barbarism, or fungus, which has attached itself to the English language, is a term for one who becomes a widow by grace or favor, not of necessity, as by death. It originated in the earlier ages of European civilization, when divorces were granted but seldom, and wholly by authority of the Catholic Church. When such decree was granted to a woman, the papal rescript stated "Viduca de gratia," which interpreted is "widow of grace." In the law of the French it would read "Veuve de grace," which in England gives "widow of grace," or "grace widow," "veuve" being translated as "widow."—*The Home Journal*

CONVINCED—"You aver" said the black-browed bandit "that you are the celebrated cantatrice, Mme. Squalikina. Prove it and you are free. Never shall it be said that a Cuttaweezanda would offer indignity to an opera soprano. It is against all the tenets of the profession." "How shall I prove my identity?" asked the captive. "By singing, of course." "What? Sing in this cave? No bouquets? No steam heat? And not a cent in the box office? Never!" "Gentlemen" said the bandit, "it is evident that the lady is what she claims to be. Escort her to the nearest village, and set her free."—*Indianapolis Journal*.

BUSINESS OUTLOOK.

The Bank Statement.

The chief feature of the weekly statement of the Associated Banks was the large increase in specie and the corresponding decrease in legal tenders, reflecting the bank redemptions of legal tenders during the week. No other construction can well be placed upon the statement because the currency movement, Sub-Treasury operations and gold exports figuring for this week resulted in a change of less than \$100,000 in the banks' cash holdings. Surplus reserve increased \$443,175, and now stands at \$33,345,825. Loans contracted \$862,200; specie increased \$6,375,900, and legal tenders decreased \$6,244,300. Deposits decreased \$1,246,300, and circulation decreased \$29,900.

The range at the Stock Exchange for call loans this week has been 1 to 2 per cent., and the average about 1½ per cent.; renewals were made at this rate, while banks and trust companies quoted 1½ a 2 per cent., with the bulk of the business at 1½ per cent. The supply of time money was abundant, while the inquiry even for short dates was small. Quotations were 1½ per cent. for thirty and 2 per cent. for sixty to ninety days; 2½ per cent. for four and three per cent. for five to six months. Commercial paper quotations are 2½ a 5 per cent. for sixty to ninety day indorsed bills receivable, 3 a 3½ per cent. for four months' commission house names, and prime four months' single names, 3½ a 4 per cent. (with, as stated above, sales of exceptionally good at 3 per cent.) for prime six months' and 4½ a 7 per cent. for good four to six months' single names.

The following is a comparison of the averages of the New York banks for the last two weeks:

	Dec. 15.	Dec. 8.	Decrease.
Loans.....	\$506,871,300	\$507,733,500	\$862,200
Specie.....	65,545,900	59,170,000	\$6,375,900
Legal tenders.....	109,000,900	115,145,200	6,244,300
Deposits.....	504,803,900	506,050,200	1,246,300
Circulation.....	11,155,200	11,185,100	29,900

*Increase.

—The *Journal of Commerce*, December 17th.

General Views.

General business developed some irregularity during the week, and viewed from the standpoint of bank clearings there was a decrease of over 12 per cent. from the previous week, but an increase of about as much compared with the corresponding period of last year. Summarizing the situation, it can be said that in most lines of merchandise there was a falling off in a wholesale way, but increased activity in retail trade, particularly in the line of holiday goods, which are now being distributed freely. . . .

In connection with the late revival in general trade, facts are coming to the surface that clearly indicate a more marked recuperation in the New England States than was generally supposed. The railway systems of that section report a decided increase in westbound shipments of manufactured products, and miscellaneous industries appear to be better supplied with orders than for a long time past. As bearing upon this condition of affairs, *Dun's Review* this week has some in-

Not even "pearl glass" or
"pearl top" lamp-chimneys
are right, unless of right shape
and size for your lamp. See
"Index to Chimneys."

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teresting statistics, gathered from several thousand manufacturers who have forwarded statements of their pay rolls for November this year, in 1893 and in 1892. The result is encouraging, inasmuch as it shows an increase in total payments this year of 15.2 per cent. over last year, although there was a decrease of 18.3 per cent. from 1892. The number of hands employed was 10.2 per cent. greater than in 1893, but 8.6 per cent. less than in 1892. The average earnings for over 250,000 people were 4 per cent. larger than 1893, but 14½ per cent. smaller than in 1892.

The engrossing event in financial circles was the engagement of \$3,800,000 gold for shipment to Paris by to-day's steamer. This outflow was made possible by the continued advance in exchange until near the close, when the offerings of gold bills caused a slight weakening in rates. The enormous subscriptions to the Russian loan had a tendency to harden the rates for money at Paris, thus helping that center to draw gold from other points. The continued scarcity of commercial bills here certainly points to a further efflux of the precious metal before the movement reaches a culmination. The question of currency reform attracted some attention in consequence of the hearings in progress at Washington, but the consensus of opinion was that the various schemes thus far presented fail to provide the proper remedy. The passage of the Pooling Bill by the House of Representatives and the defeat of the Sugar Bill and closure resolution in the Senate led to increased activity on the Stock Exchange, where railway securities improved to a moderate extent, and the shares of the American Sugar Refining Company advanced sharply on enormous transactions. The monetary situation presented no new features, and rates of interest were kept down by an accumulation of idle funds at this point.

CHESS.

A Game Worth Studying.

The following game, an exhibition of very first-class amateur play, was played during the team-match between the Metropolitan and London Chess Clubs. Mr. Blake, who represented the Metropolitan Club, is the amateur chess champion of Great Britain. The score and notes are from *The Newcastle-on-Tyne Chronicle*.

FRENCH DEFENSE.

J. H. BLAKE, DR. S. F. SMITH, White.	J. H. BLAKE, DR. S. F. SMITH, Black.
1 P—K 4	P—Q 4
2 P—Q 4	P—Q 4
3 Kt—Q B 3	Kt—K B 3
4 B—K Kt 5	B—K 2
5 P—K 5	Kt—Q 2
6 B—B	Q x B
7 Q—Q 2	Castles
8 Kt—Q (a) P—Q 4	P—Q 4
9 P—Q B 3	Kt—Q B 3
10 P—K B 4	P—K B 3
11 Kt—B 3	P x K P
12 B P x P	P x P
13 P—P	R x Kt (c)
14 P—R	Q—R 5 (ch)
15 Kt—B 2 (d) Kt x Q P	Kt x Q P
16 B—K 2	Kt x K P
17 Castles Q R Kt (Q—B 3—B 4—B 5)	Q—B 3
18 Kt—R 3	Q—R 5
19 K—Kt	Kt—B 5
20 Q—B 3	P—Q 5 (d)
21 Q—Q 3 (g)	Q—Kt 5
22 Q—K 2	Kt—K 6
23 R—Q 3	P—K 4
24 Kt—Kt 5	Q—K 2
25 R x Kt (h) P x R	P x R
26 Q—B 4 (ch) K—B (i)	Q—B 4
27 Kt x P (ch) K—K	P—Q 4
28 Q—Kt 8 (j) K—Q 2	Q—K 2
29 Q—Q 5 (ch) K—B 2	Q—B 4
30 Q—K 4	B—K 3
31 P—B 4	P—K Kt 3 (k)
32 Q x Kt P	R—K Kt
33 Q—B 2	B x B
34 Q x R	Q x K (ch)
35 K—R	P x P
36 Q—B 3	Q—B 4
37 R—K B	B—Q 4 (l)
38 Q—K 2	Kt—Q 5
39 R—B (ch)	B—B 3
40 Q—Q	Q—K 5
	Resigns.

Notes.

(a) This line of attack against the French Defense was first introduced by Herr Winawer. The object is to connect the Pawns in the center by 9 P—Q B 3, the Knight afterward coming in usefully at K 3, or K B 3.

(b) Always a strong move in the defense when correctly timed.

(c) Very fine play, indeed, and putting quite a new aspect on the game. But is it analytically sound? The progress of the present game tends to the conclusion that it is.

(d) It is difficult to determine White's best move. Our own choice favors 15 Q—B 2, which would probably be followed by 15 . . . Kt x Q P; 16 Q x Q, Kt x B P (ch); 17 K—B 2, Kt x Q, and, although Black wins yet another Pawn, White remains with the exchange ahead, and many attacking possibilities on the open K Kt file.

(e) Much better than 17 KtxP, for fairly obvious reasons.

(f) Again fine play. White cannot relieve himself with 21 R x P on account of 21 . . . Kt x R; 22 Q x Kt, Kt—R 6 (ch), winning the Queen.

(g) Open to objections. We prefer 21 Q—Kt 3, with a view to an exchange of Queens, and transference of the attack to White.

(h) Well conceived, and unquestionably his best resource. 25 Kt—K 4 would be met by 25 . . . Kt—Q Kt 5; 26 R—Q 2, B—K 3; with an overwhelming attack.

(i) The only move. 26 . . . K—R would obviously be met by 27 Kt—B 7 (ch), K—Kt; 28 K—R 6 (dbl-ch) and mate next move.

(j) These checks only serve to drive the Black King into safety. 28 P—B 4, with a view to liberating the Bishop, strikes us as a better resource.

(k) Chess of a very high order. Black threatens 32 . . . B—B 4 and 32 . . . Q x Kt. White is, therefore, practically compelled to capture this Pawn, whereupon Black wins two pieces for his Rook.

(l) The winning move. If 38 Q x B P (ch), Q x Q; 39 R x Q, P—K 7 and wins. Dr. Smith's conduct of the whole of this game is admirable, and shows how thin is the dividing-line between the chess-master and the really talented amateur, for the game throughout contains master-play, which is seldom excelled even in international tournaments.

How Steinitz Defeated Showalter.

Mr. Showalter is one of the chess-experts of the United States, and aspires to be the champion of this part of the world. The following game shows how an ordinary champion will fare sometimes when he falls into the hands of an extraordinary champion. Although Mr. Steinitz is ex-champion of the world, he can still show the boys how to play chess.

The very interesting notes are from *The New York Clipper*:

QUEEN'S GAMBIT EVADED.

STEINITZ, White.	SHOWALTER, Black.	STEINITZ, White.	SHOWALTER, Black.
1 P—Q 4	P—Q 4	16 Q—K B 3	P—K B 4?
2 P—Q B 4	P—K 3	17 Castles	Kt—Q 4?
3 Q Kt—B 3	Kt—B 3	18 KR—Ktsq	P—Q Kt 4
4 Q B—Kt 5 (f) K B—K 2	19 P—Q B 4	Kt—his 5	20 KR x Kt (j) K B x R
5 P—K 3	Q Kt—Q 2	21 K KtxP	Q B x Kt
6 Q R—B sq	Castles	22 Q x Q B	Q—Kt 3
7 K Kt—B 3 P—Q B 3	23 B P x P	24 Q x Q	25 P—Q R 3
8 K B—Q 3 P—K R 3 (g)	24 Kt P x Q	26 P—Q B 7	K R—B sq
9 Q B—R 4 Q P x P	27 K B—B 4	26 Q R—B 6	K B—R 4
10 K B x P K Kt—Q 4	28 B x K P	27 K B—B sq	K his 2
11 Q B—Kt 3 Q Kt—his 3 (h)	29 B x P	28 B x K P	resigns—a thing he very rarely does before the thirtieth move!
12 K B—Q 3 Kt x Kt?	30 Resigns	29 B x P and Mr. Showalter	
13 Kt P x Kt K B—R 6 (i)		resigns—a thing he very rarely does before the thirtieth move!	
14 Q R—B 2 Q B—Q 4			
15 K Kt—K 5 B—K sq			

(f) A strong continuation occasionally adopted. It is by no means easy to dislodge the Bishop satisfactorily.

(g) This weakening step might perhaps have been dispensed with.

(h) Nor do we approve the judgment of this rather remote move. Kt to B 3 might be better. Black's next move is unfathomable, merely strengthening the opponent's Pawn centre.

(i) Apprehending, perhaps, the manœuvre of B to Kt sq, with Q to her 3.

(j) Having got his opponent's Pawns demoralized, White, by this beautiful sacrifice, is enabled to pick them off one by one. From 18 . . . to the end White plays exceedingly fine chess.

The New York Tribune publishes the following interesting bit of chess news:

Some time ago the announcement was made in German newspapers that Dr. Siegbert Tarrasch, Nuremberg, the hero of the Breslau, Manchester, Dresden, and Leipsic international tournaments, intended to publish 300 of his games in book form. Chess-players all over the United States were full of expectation, but when the first copies of the work arrived in this city last week every chess-player was pleased, and the players of the Manhattan Chess Club are continually perusing its pages. Although the book is written in German, even those devotees who do not understand the language of the Fatherland were able to appreciate it, for it contains 300 selected games, played by Tarrasch against all the leading chess-players of the world, including the twenty-two

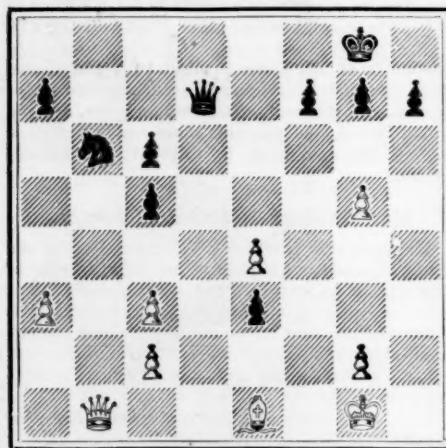
games contested in his match with Tschigorin at St. Petersburg last year. The game played by the German master against Louis Paulsen in 1889 is here appended. It is needless to say that the game was published in the book for the first time, as it was not contested in a tournament.

FOUR KNIGHTS' GAME.

L. PAULSEN.	TARRASCH.	L. PAULSEN.	TARRASCH.
White.	Black.	White.	Black.
1 P-K 4	P-K 4	13 P-K B 4	P x P
2 Kt-B 3	Kt-Q B 3	14 R x P (d)	P-Q 4 (e)
3 Kt-B 3	Kt-B 3	15 Kt-Kt 4 (f)	B x Kt
4 B-Kt 5	B-Kt 5	16 P x B	P x P (g)
5 Castles	Castles	17 P-Kt 5	B x Kt
6 P-Q 3	P-Q 3	18 P x B (h)	R x R
7 B x Kt	P x B	19 Q x R	P-K 6 (i)
8 B-Q 2 (a)	R-K	20 B-K	Kt-Q 4
9 P-QR 3 (b)	B-R 4	21 R-Kt 4	Q-Q 2
10 P-K R 3	R-Kt	22 R-K 4 (k)	R x R
11 R-Kt	P-B 4 (e)	23 P x R	Kt-Kt 3 (l)
12 Kt-R 2	P-B 3		

Position after Black's twenty-third move.

Black—Ten pieces.



White—Nine pieces.

24 P-R 4	Q-Q (m)	29 P-Kt 3	Q-Kt 5
25 P-R 5	Rt-B 5	30 K-Q 3	Kt-K 4 ch
26 P-R 6	P-Kt 3 (n)	31 K x P	Q-B 6 ch
27 K-B	K-Kt 2 (o)	32 K-Q 2	Kt-B 5 ch
28 K-K 2	Q-P 4 (p)	33 K-B	Q-K 7

White cannot save the mate next move and so he resigned.

NOTES BY TARRASCH.

- (a) Kt-K 2 is usually played here.
- (b) A weak move, which drives the B to better squares and opens the Q Kt file for the rook.
- (c) Played in order to proceed with P-B 3, P-Q 4 and B-B 2.
- (d) A decisive error. B ought to have taken the P.
- (e) Black now threatens to get the much superior game by means of B-B 2.
- (f) Any other move would not have assisted White much.
- (g) White dare not retake the pawn, for if P x P Black wins by the surprising combination: 17 . . . R x P; 18 R x R, B x Kt, and if 17 Kt x P, Kt x Kt; 18 B x B, Q-Q 5 ch; 19 K-R 2, Q-Q 3; 20 P-Kt 3, Kt x Kt P; 21 K x Kt, P-Kt 4 or R-K 6 ch, and Black wins.
- (h) If B x B instead, Black maintains with 18 . . . Kt-Q 4; 19 R x P, Q x Kt P his pawn.
- (i) Now Black makes use of the won pawn.
- (k) White could not play R-Kt 5 on account of Kt-B 5.
- (l) The game is now pretty clear. Black has a pawn to the good, and the pawns of the adversary on the King's wing are very weak. White, therefore, tries an attack on Q Kt's file.
- (m) The best rejoinder. It prevents after Kt-B 5, the check on Q Kt 8, and attacks the pawns on Q R 5 and K Kt 5.
- (n) White threatened Q Kt 7, but Q-Q 8 and Kt-Q 7 ch, if K moves to B, prevents this scheme.
- (o) If 27 . . . Kt-Q 7 ch; 28 B x Kt, Q x B; 29 Q-Kt 8 ch and Q-K 5 would draw.
- (p) A pretty attack with Q and Kt follows.

An Ounce of Prevention

is cheaper than any quantity of cure. Don't give children narcotics or sedatives. They are unnecessary when the infant is properly nourished, as it will be if brought up on the Gail Borden Eagle Brand Condensed Milk.

LEGAL.

Defective Bridge—City's Liability.

According to the decision of the Supreme Court of Georgia, in the case of Samples *v.* City of Atlanta, although a traveler may know that because of the defective construction of a public bridge in a city there is danger in driving over it, still he may recover from the city for injuries sustained in so doing if it clearly appears that the danger was not obviously of such character that driving over the bridge would necessarily amount to a want of ordinary and reasonable care and diligence, and if it also appears that in driving over the bridge the plaintiff did in fact observe such care and diligence, and that in such case the mere fact of driving over the bridge would not of itself authorize a finding that the plaintiff by so doing consented to the injuries thereby occasioned.—*Bradstreet's, December 8.*

Attorney and Client.

In an action for attorney's services, proof that the attorney's compensation was contingent on the result of litigation does not sustain an allegation that defendant agreed to pay a fixed sum for such services. (*Owen v. Meade* [Cal.], 37 Pac. Rep., 923).—*Albany Law Journal.*

Insurable Interest—Policy.

In the case of The United States Mutual Accident Association of the City of New York *v.* Hodgkin, decided recently by the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia, and reported in the *Washington Law Reporter*, it appeared that a policy of insurance was issued by defendant association to one Uber, who, in his application, which was in terms made part of the policy, designated plaintiff as beneficiary, describing her as one "whose relationship to me is that of a friend." All dues were paid by Uber, and plaintiff was ignorant of the transaction until the policy came into her possession after his death. The association refused payment on the ground that she was without "insurable interest," and that the policy was therefore void. In an action on the policy judgment was given for plaintiff, and the Appellate Court affirming this judgment held that the policy had none of the ordinary features of wager policies, and the defendant had no right to defeat it on the general ground that the beneficiary designated therein was without insurable interest. It appeared that there was no restriction in the by-laws and articles of association upon the power to issue policies for the benefit of persons having no insurable interest. But the by-laws authorized the directors to change the conditions of insurance from time to time and insert new ones in the policies as issued. Under this power they annexed to the policy sued on a condition that all claims under it should be subject

to proof of insurable interest. The Court held that conceding the meaning claimed for this condition, the circumstances of the transaction estopped the association from claiming the benefit of it.—*Bradstreet's.*

Current Events.

Monday, December 10.

Both Houses in session; in the Senate speeches are delivered in favor of Government control of the proposed Nicaragua canal; routine business in the House. . . . The Committee on Banking opens its hearings on the currency question. . . . Governor Flower, of New York, dismisses the charges against the managers of the Elmira Reformatory. . . . The Convention of the American Federation of Labor opens in Denver. . . . The Good Government Clubs' Convention continues in Minneapolis. . . . The trial of ex-Captain Stephenson for blackmailing is begun; this is the first trial resulting from the work of the Lexow Committee in New York.

The Japanese are preparing to advance on Pekin. . . . There is a financial crisis in St. Johns, N. F.; several banks and firms suspend payment.

Tuesday, December 11.

Both Houses in session; the Nicaragua Canal Bill is discussed in the Senate; the Railroad Pooling Bill passes the House. . . . Seely, the defaulting bank book-keeper, is arrested in Chicago. . . . Boston goes Republican in a municipal election. . . . Ex-Governor Tillman elected Senator of the South Carolina Legislature.

The Japanese are reported to have captured Kin-chaw and also to have defeated a Chinese force near Kin-Kwa-Ka. . . . The Turkish Cabinet threatens to resign in view of the European indignation on the Armenian situation. . . . The German Press protests against the proposed prosecution of the German Socialist Deputies who refused to cheer the Emperor.

Wednesday, December 12.

Both Houses in session; in the Senate, motions to take up the bill repealing the differential duty on refined sugar and to consider a closure resolution are defeated by decisive votes; in the House, a motion to strike out the appropriation for the collection of the income tax is voted down. . . . The National Civil Service Reform League meets in Chicago. . . . Ex-Captain Stephenson, of the New York Police, is found guilty of accepting a bribe.

Sir John Thompson, Canadian Premier, dies suddenly at Windsor Castle. . . . Bardeau, the President of the French Chamber, dies. . . . The Newfoundland Ministry resigns on account of the financial crisis. . . . In a stormy session of the Reichstag, the Socialists protest against the proposed prosecution of the Deputies who refused to cheer the Emperor.

Thursday, December 13.

Both Houses in session; Nicaragua Canal Bill is discussed in the Senate; appropriation bills are discussed in the House. . . . The regulations governing the collection of the income-tax are made public. . . . The National Civil Service Reform League reelects Carl Schurz president, and passes resolutions demanding further extension of the classified service. . . . Secretary Lamont decides that the proposed bridge between New York and Jersey City must be a suspension bridge.

Committees of the Reichstag reject the proposals to prosecute the Socialist Deputies and to enlarge the powers of the President. . . . A new Government is formed in Newfoundland, with Joseph Greene as Premier.

Friday, December 14.

The Senate not in session; the House passes the Pension Appropriation Bill. . . . Eugene W. Debs, the leader of the A. R. U. strike, is found guilty of contempt and sentenced to six months' imprisonment; his associates are sentenced to three months each. . . . Police Captain Creeden confesses before the Lexow Committee that he paid \$15,000 for his promotion.

The Porte objects to a separate inquiry into the Armenian question by an American, and the order to Consul Jewett is revoked by Secretary Gresham.

Saturday, December 15.

The House Committee on Banking and Currency, after the close of the hearing, decides to report Secretary Carlisle's Currency Bill without amendments. . . . The Senate lays aside the new treaty with Japan pending an investigation of the report of the massacre at Port Arthur.

The Reichstag, by a vote of 168 to 58, rejects the Government's proposal to prosecute the Socialists for lese majeste. . . . Many new outrages are reported to have been committed in Armenia.

Sunday, December 16.

An official statement is made by the Japanese Minister in Washington, substantially admitting the truth of the report of the Port Arthur massacre.

The Japanese garrison at Feng-Huang defeats a Chinese force numerically superior to it. . . . The Italian Parliament is prorogued.

La Grippe Cured by the Electropoise.

Mr. John W. Rhines, Foreman of Funk & Wagnalls Co., said:

"I suffered agonies with la grippe, which medicines failed to cure. Mrs. Ella Boole asked me to use her Electropoise, and it has cured me completely."

His letter was given in last week's DIGEST.

Shall we mail you a book of complete information about the Electropoise, which tells why it has the power to cure cases that are incurable to medication? It is sent without charge.

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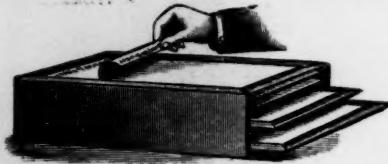
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